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[26-6]



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[18-3]

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Its perfect fit and scientific construction preventing that annoying clogging and evaporation of the ink which attends the use of the old-fashioned dip pen or the cheap and nasty type of fountain pen. The "Swan" has a perfect ink-feed, is fitted with a gold nib iridium tipped, does not leak, and is easily filled and cleaned.



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MARIE, TODD & Co.,
Manufacturers, LONDON.

[37-3]

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FLOWER SEEDS.

FRESH CROP of 1917 having been just collected orders solicited for Autumn or early Spring sowing.

List will be mailed free on application.

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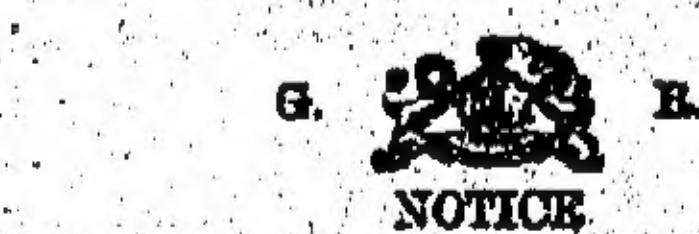
YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.

[1103]

ON SALE

BOUND VOLUMES of the HONGKONG
WEEKLY PRESS, JANUARY to JUNE,
1917.

With Index, Price \$7.50.
On Sale at the HONGKONG DAILY PRESS
Office.



ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian
desiring to leave the Colony should
apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE
STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.
and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce
Passports or identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who
remain in the Colony for more than 7 days
are required to Register themselves under
the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS
ORDINANCE 1916.

Forms of Registration giving the particu-
lars required may be obtained at the
G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine
not exceeding \$50.

[38]

FOR SALE

USED MIXED POSTAGE STAMPS, with
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500 Stamps for \$0.50	4000 Stamps for \$1.00
1000 " " 0.80	500 " " 2.50
2000 " " 1.20	6000 " " 3.00
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GRACA & CO.,

No 4, WYNDHAM STREET,
Hongkong.

[72-2]

AMONG THE U.S. "SAMMIES"

"ALL PEOPLES THAT ON EARTH
DO DWELL."

[BY HAMILTON EYRE.]

NEW YORK.

I do not think Europe understands with any clearness of vision the mixture of races in the United States. I asked a British official who had lately come here what line he thought would be effective for a speech at a recruiting rally here. He said, "I always talk about the union of the Anglo-Saxon nations. They seem to like it."

They may seem to like this, but only because they are too polite to show that it does not appeal to them one little bit. How can it be expected to appeal to them? Look at this list of conscripts drawn for military service in one of the districts of New York:

Rodgers. Rothman. Biescher.
Herschel. Schwartz. Carotta.
Hoffmann. Tripp. Piria.
Panella. Albert. Jevanian.
Perlman. Pamberelli. Carter.

Men of every nationality on the earth's surface have been found among the conscripts, according to one of the newspapers, with the possible exception of Tibet. When search was made for the longest name so far revealed among the men drawn, this was the discovery announced:

Allossejuissepusso.

Noting Anglo-Saxon about that! It is more desirable than ever it was that Europe should understand the United States, and the first step towards that understanding is to get rid of the idea that this is an "Anglo-Saxon" country, which has an inborn sympathy with England and the English, and which has come into the war because it feels that "blood is thicker than water." I look down another list of conscripted soldiers and ask myself what must be thought of this country by Pietro Bourczak, Jacob Rackovsky, Pio Mangone, Carl Eilemann, and Kai Hirokiaki. They would probably inquire what Anglo-Saxon meant.

The holding of so many of the chief posts in the Government of the United States by men who bear English or Scotch or Irish names has helped to keep up the false impression in England, and I fancy in France also, that the bulk of the people of the United States are descendants of British soldiers. Those who are of British origin are in truth a relatively small number. The more carefully we bear this in mind the less likely are we to offend by tactless disregard of American susceptibilities.

A TRIBUTE TO THE PRESIDENT.
The more readily we shall we find the explanation of President Wilson's course during the long time through which he seemed to halt between two opinions. He had to convince our friends Rackovsky and Eilemann, Bourczak and Hirokiaki, that this country could not stay out of the war. It was not an easy task. It is more to the Land of Freedom to escape disagreeable interferences with the liberty of the individual, such as compulsory military service. That they have now consented to take up this burden of their own free will is a tribute to the President's persuasive method. It should be recognized by us and never forgotten.

Fighting together will weld all the mixed elements of the American Army as nothing else could. Panella and Perlman, Jevanian and Herschel, will be "Sammies" alongside of Rodgers and Carter, of Jack Macdonald and Pat Flynn.

"Sammies" merely dig, hike, and jab" was the headline to a digram about the work of the United States troops in France which caught my puzzled eye a few mornings ago. It meant that American soldiers were making trenches, marching, and learning to use the bayonet. "Sammies" caught on at once as a nickname to place alongside of "Technics" and "Polis."

They are a good-looking lot. I see them swinging down Fifth Avenue and drilling in Central Park these hot mornings. I have seen them lined up in quiet streets after dusk, many of them in shirt-sleeves, applying themselves to the intricacies of forming fours and forming two-deep with a knitted-brow energy which promises rapid mastery of the rudiments of the soldier's trade.

The men drawn for service whose names I have quoted (all over the country you will find in the city districts the same proportion of these foreign patronymics) have been here only a year or two perhaps yet they are "American," and proud of it already. The war will set the seal upon their change of nationality. It will bring them closer to their countrymen of Anglo-Saxon blood, and it will bring the whole nation nearer to us.—Daily Mail.

GERMAN INDEMNITY DREAM.

CASH THEY MUST HAVE FROM
THE ALLIES.

The Deutsche Tageszeitung recently had a noteworthy article upon the Reichstag resolution of peace without annexations or indemnities. "Such a peace," it says, "would spell ruin to Germany. Without an indemnity there is no hope of carrying on during the first ten years after the conclusion of peace. Germany would have to bear extra taxation amounting to \$600,000,000, as compared with pre-war taxation of \$175,000,000. "How can a country in a state of ruin, in which it will find itself, and in view of the enormously increased cost of living shoulder an added burden of that magnitude when the sum of six billions would be a maximum effort, and even that could only be endured with the greatest effort?"

"Germany is not blind enough, after all her sacrifices, to accept in lieu of the material compensation she must have, fine phrases about peace and good will among men."

During the course of his examination the recruiting sergeant asked the applicant:

"What would you do if you were ordered to disperse the enemy in a trench?"

"Pass around the hat, sir," was the reply.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS BY MAJOR H. A. MORGAN, ADMINISTRATIVE COMMANDANT.

STRENGTH.

Pte. C. C. Nelson was enrolled on 24.9.17. and posted to "B" Co.

Pte. J. Gray was enrolled on 23.10.17. and posted to "D" Co.

Pte. W. Jackson was enrolled on 23.10.17. and posted to "B" Co.

Pte. G. T. Knight was enrolled on 24.10.17. and posted to "B" Co.

Spr. J. R. McClymont was enrolled on 24.10.17. and posted to Engineer Co.

Pte. C. R. Logan joined the Corps on 23.10.17. and is posted to Machine-gun Co.

Serjt. J. H. Lawrence, Signalling Section, is permitted to resign on Medical Certificate, dated 16th Oct., 1917.

Pte. W. M. Mason, Signalling Section, is permitted to resign on leaving the Colony, dated 22nd Oct., 1917.

Pte. M. J. Wells, "D" Co., resigned on 25th Oct., 1917.

LEAVE.

Lieut. J. D. Danby, Artillery Co., is granted 3 weeks' leave from 25.10.17.

Gnr. W. C. Bond, Artillery Co., is granted 12 months' leave from 23.10.17.

Pte. J. O. Shepherd, "B" Co., is granted 2 months' leave from 2.11.17.

Pte. R. A. Ramsay, "B" Co., is granted 6 months' extension of leave, till 22nd March, 1918.

Pte. E. J. Chapman, "A" Co., is granted extension of leave, till 23.3.18.

Pte. N. S. Brown, "B" Co., is granted 6 or 7 weeks' leave from 30.10.17.

Loc. Cpl. A. A. da Luz, Signalling Section, is granted 1 month's leave from 21.10.17.

Loc. Cpl. P. Mathieson, Engineer Co., is granted leave for the duration of the war from 1st Nov., 1917.

Pte. E. Howard, Mounted Section, is granted 3 months' leave from 5.11.17.

Gnr. J. R. Johnston, Artillery Co., is granted 1 month's leave from 28.10.17.

Corpl. D. Austin, Engineer Co., is granted 14 days' leave from 2.11.17.

Spr. H. H. Scott, Engineer Co., is granted 1 month's leave from 26.10.17.

PROMOTION.

Corpl. R. L. Roche, Signalling Section, is promoted Sergeant, dated 29th Oct., 1917.

EXAMINATIONS.

The syllabus for examinations for officers and N.C.O.s, vide Second Schedule, Sections 5 (3), (4) and 6 (2) of the Military Service Ordinance, 1917, is now ready and may be obtained on application to the Adjutant.

MUSKETRY COURSE.

Recruits will not attend (unless specially instructed to do so) musketry parades ordered for the units to which they have been posted, until they have been dismissed from the Recruits' Squad.

Pouches are to be worn at all Musketry parades.

TRANSFERS.

Pte. H. Coombes, "B" Co., is transferred to "D" Co., temporarily from 29th Oct., 1917.

Pte. J. Dalziel, "B" Co., is transferred to "D" Co. from 24th Oct., 1917.

ORDERS FOR ARTILLERY COMPANY BY CAPTAIN J. H. A. MORGAN, V.C.

PARADES.

Monday, 29th inst.:—

5.30 p.m. Left Half Company at Belchers Battery (Range targets only).

Tuesday, 30th inst.:—

7.30 a.m. Right Half Company at Belchers Battery.

5.30 p.m. Left Half Company at Belchers Battery.

Thursday, 1st Nov.:—

5.30 p.m. Left Half Company (Gun numbers other than specialists) at Belchers Battery.

Friday, 2nd Nov.:—

7.30 a.m. Right Half Company (Range Targets) Class and Gun numbers as detailed at Belchers Battery.

5.30 p.m. Right Half Company (Layers and Setters' Classes only) at Belchers Battery.

5.30 p.m. Left Half Company (Layers and Setters' Classes only) at Belchers Battery.

ORDERS FOR ENGINEER COMPANY BY CAPTAIN J. H. A. MORGAN, V.C.

PARADES.

28th inst. to 2nd Nov.:—

Nightly E. L. Manning at Belchers and Lyceum as per Rosters posted at Headquarters.

Officers next for duty:—

Belchers, 2nd-Lieut. Matthewman, Lyceum, 2nd-Lieut. Hill.

Stonecutters, 2nd-Lieut. Marley.

Parades for Instruction, at Belchers at 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, under Staff-Serjts. Owendene and Parsons, R.E., Corpl. Day and 2nd-Corpl. Morris, H.K.D.C.

Transfers. The undermentioned are transferred as follows:—

From Leave to Lyceum, Captain F. W. James, who resumes duty as O/c D.E.L. Lyceum.

From Lyceum to Stonecutters, Lieut. R. J. Stevenson, who resumes duty as O/c D.E.L. Stonecutters.

ORDERS FOR INFANTRY BATTALION BY MAJOR H. A. MORGAN.

PARADES.

Monday, 29th inst.:—

6.30 a.m. Annual Musketry Course, Part 3, Practices 13, 14 and 19, at King's Park Range. The following will attend:—Loc. Cpl. J. Macdonald, Privates G. M. Lakin, I. D. McNeill, W. Ross and A. T. Stubbs.

4.45 p.m. No. 2 Platoon (N.C.O.s and men as detailed by Lieut. Blason) at King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course, Part 2, Practices 5, 6, 7 and 12. Dress: Drill order with pouches.

Tuesday, 30th inst.:—

6.30 a.m. Annual Musketry Course, Part 3, Practices 15 and 16, at King's Park Range. The N.C.O.s and men who fire on 29th inst. will attend.

6.30 a.m. Annual Musketry Course, Part 2, Practices 8 and 9, at Peak Range. The following will attend:—Private Fraser, Harpur, Jack, Labrum, Logan, Macdonald, A. McKerns, Pinguet, and Todd.

Friday, 2nd Nov.:—

5.15 p.m. Nos. 4 and 5 Guns, at Headquarters.

Any Hongkong residents attached to Nos. 1 and 2 Guns unable to attend at Kowloon Docks on Monday or Tuesday will parade at Headquarters on Thursday, the 1st November, at 5.15 p.m.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

JUNKERS' DREAD OF PEACE.

[BY MANFRED EMANUEL.]

There are many indications that the military powers which rule Germany are more afraid of peace than war.

For what are the Allies fighting? For the extermination of Prussian militarism, built up on the commercial and industrial progress of Germany during the forty years before the war. Is it illogical, then, to argue that the sinister figure of Prussian militarism has already received wounds from which it cannot recover?

Whether the war was begun by Germany primarily for the purpose of obtaining military supremacy or commercial world-power is a matter of secondary interest. This much is certain, however—that the Junker party entered into a contract to deliver certain markets of the world over to the industrial and commercial interests of Germany in a stated period of time.

France is to be beaten before the end of 1914; Russia will be crippled as early in 1915 as the climate permits; England, if then still willing to fight, will receive "due attention" until she is starved into a reasonable (German) frame of mind—that was the Prussian programme. The time-table did not materialise.

It is possible to gain a very clear idea of the importance of this time factor in the agreement between German commerce and Prussian militarism if we visualise the German Empire as it really was in the days before the war—an enormous exporting firm with business in all four corners of the globe.

What must be the position of such a firm after more than thirty-three months of interruption? Bankruptcy. How, then, has the firm managed to exist?

Many of its departments have been converted into war organisations, busy in the production of munitions and war material. They have thus been enabled to show large profits—paper profits. When peace is declared, however, not only human power—not even the Prussian military authorities—will be able to make the mark worth really a shilling.

If an inconclusive peace by agreement came to-morrow—which Heaven forbid—Prussian militarism would be a shattered, crippled thing. The demobilisation of the army would be followed by such a revolt on the part of the commercial and industrial interests—that Prussian militarism would not dare show its head. It would have to answer to commerce for disrupted trade, loss of commercial prestige, lack of raw material, loss of markets, and a hundred and one evils of its misplaced convictions.

Commerce and industry would not again be easily gulled by the power that failed. And what of the civilian population—the old men, the women, and the children? What must their thoughts be of the Prussia in Arms that has depicted for them the promised land of milk and honey and only given them death, famine, and disaster?

The Junkers have not been able to fulfil their contract. They have not yet, however, paid the full penalty of their failure, and they must well be more afraid of peace than of war.

MOUNTED SECTION.

Monday, 29th inst.:—

5.15 p.m. at Jockey Club Stables. Dress: Drill order without rifles.

Tuesday, 30th inst.:—

6.30 a.m. Annual Musketry Course, Part 2, Practices 8 and 9, at Peak Range. The following will attend:—Sergeant G. Morton Smith, Corpl. L. N. Lee, Ptes. T. J. Fisher, J. A. Ridgway and E. Howard, Officer i/c, 2nd-Lieut. Moxon.

Thursday, 1st Nov.:—

5.15 p.m. at Jockey Club Stables. Dress: Drill order.

Monday, 29th inst.:—

5.15 p.m. "B" and "C" Classes, Right and Left Half Sections, at Headquarters.

Tuesday, 30th inst.:—

5.15 p.m. "A" Class, Right and Left Half Sections, at Happy Valley, Station Work.

Thursday, 1st Nov.:—

5.15 p.m. "B" and "C" Classes at Headquarters.

Friday, 2nd Nov.:—

5.15 p.m. "A" Class at Happy Valley, Station Work.

STRETCHER BEARER SECTION.

Tuesday, 30th inst.:—

5.30 p.m. Drill at Headquarters. recruits.

Monday, 29th inst.:—

5.15 p.m. All units, except "D" Co., on Murray Parade Ground, under Sergt. Oxberry, Corpls. Edmonds and Grimes. Dress: Drill order.

Friday, 2nd Nov.:—

5.15 p.m. All units, except "D" Co., on Murray Parade Ground, under Sergt. Oxberry, Corpls. Edmonds and Grimes. Dress: Drill order.

"D" COMPANY.

Friday, 2nd Nov.:—

5.30 p.m. New members (joined since 19.17.) at Headquarters, under O.S.M. Cooke and Corpl. Edmonds.

DETAILS.

On duty from 28th Oct. to 30th Oct. inclusive—"A" Co.

On duty from 31st Oct. to 7th Nov. inclusive—"B" Co.

On duty from 8th Nov.—Signalling Section.

On duty from 9th Nov.—Mounted Section.

On duty from 10th Nov.—Machine-gun Co.

Orderly Officer from 28th inst. to 3rd Nov.—Lieut. C. H. Blason.

Orderly Officer from 4th to 10th Nov.—Lieut. H. R. B. Hancock.

(84) G. E. STEWART,

Adjutant, H. K. Defence Corps, Hongkong, 26th October, 1917.

ROCKEY NOTICE.

A meeting of the Hockey team will be held at Headquarters on Friday, 2nd November, at 6.30 p.m.

All players are particularly requested to attend.

SPORT.

BILLIARDS.

VOLUNTEER CUP.

Another heat in this competition was concluded at the Soldiers' Club on Thursday evening, when the 8th Company B.G.A. defeated the R.A.M.C. by no less than 571 points. The R.A.M.C. had rather bad luck, for Sergt. MacKeehan, a member of their team, hurt his hand at cricket on Tuesday and was unable to play. There were no very big breaks, the best effort being that of Sergt. Davis, who made a 24. Scores—

Captain H. M. C. Macaulay	129
Corpl. Dilkes	64
Staff-Sergt. Loder	108
Total scores	1,010

8TH COMPANY B.G.A.

Major A. J. S. Roche-Kelly	200
Sergt. Lee	200
Sergt. Davis	200
Total scores	1,581

CRICKET.

CRAIGENGOWER C.C. v. CHINESE RECREATION CLUBS.

In this league match, to be played today on the C.R.C. ground at 2 p.m., the following will represent Craigenower: L. A. Rose, D. K. Kharras, R. Bass, A. Grummett, E. Thompson, T. Ford, J. D. Noria, W. Graham, W. W. Edwards, S. Jex, and M. Abbas.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

TO-DAY'S MATCHES.

HONGKONG LEAGUE, DIVISION I.

Club v. 25th Middlesex Regt.—Club Ground, Kick-off, 4.30 p.m.
Navy v. R.E.—Navy Ground. Kick-off, 4.30 p.m.

DIVISION II.

R.E. Res. v. South China Athletic—Navy Ground, 3 p.m.

HONGKONG F.C. v. MIDDLESEX REGT.

The Hongkong Football Club will meet the Middlesex Regiment to-day at 4.30 p.m. on the Club Ground. The Club will play in white and will be represented by Rodger, Cade and McCubbin; Finch, Stewart and Ralston; Wood, Railton, Gerrard, McTavish and Young.

GOLF.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP.

The Starting-list for Sunday is as follows:

- 9.15—Lindsell v. Des Vaux.
- 9.30—Thursfield v. Fisher.
- 9.35—R. Hancock v. Rawlinson.
- 9.30—Cumming v. Leith.
- 9.35—B. Johnson v. S. Thomson.
- 9.40—S. Evans v. Raworth.
- 9.45—Redmond v. Tisdell (replacing Archbutt).
- 9.50—Dodwell v. Stewart.
- 9.55—Murray v. Kraft.
- 10.00—Sandford v. Loughlin.
- 10.05—E. Davidson v. Edwards.
- 10.10—W. J. Morrison v. K. S. Morrison (replacing de Rome).
- 10.15—Purves v. Brayshaw.
- 10.20—Lindsay Woods v. Milner Jones.
- 10.25—Ritchie v. Grist.
- 10.30—Rodger (Junior) v. Crew.
- 1.15—Lindsell v. Des Vaux v. Thursfield or Fisher.
- 1.20—Hancock or Rawlinson v. Cumming or Leith.
- 1.25—Johnson or Thomson v. Evans or Raworth.
- 1.30—Redmond or Bryson v. Dodwell or Stewart.
- 1.35—Murray or Kraft v. Sandford or Loughlin.
- 1.40—Davidson or Edwards v. W. J. Morrison or K. S. Morrison.
- 1.45—Purves or Brayshaw v. Lindsay Woods or Milner Jones.
- 1.50—Ritchie or Grist v. Rodger or Crew.

Competitors not ready to start at their time will be scratched.

The courtesy of the green is requested between 9 and 10.45 a.m. and 1 and 2 p.m.

The Committee would advise competitors to study the Rules of Golf, and would point out that under the Rules of Golf competitors will not agree to exclude the operation of any Rule or Local Rule, under penalty of disqualification.

The Rules of Golf Committee recommend that players should not concede putts to their opponents.

Certain Local Rules will be in operation during the Championship; particulars of which will be found posted in the Club-house.

HONGKONG RIFLE LEAGUE.

So far five teams have entered for the season's competition for the Bellis Shield. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. M. S. Northcote, will be glad to receive entries from teams wishing to compete. Shooting will commence about the middle of November.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY. ORDERED TO BE CANED.

A small Chinese boy, aged about 13, charged with snatching a jade bangle from another child in Shanghai Street, Yau-mat.

The excuse was that the defendant wanted to see if the bangle fitted him.

Mr. J. R. Wood ordered him to receive six strokes of the cane.

ATTEMPT TO BRIBE.

A coolie, who was arrested by Sergt. Hollands with being in the Cathedral compound the previous night with intent to commit a felony, tried to bribe the policeman with 90 cents to let him off.

When charged before Mr. Dyer Ball, defendant pleaded guilty.

A fine of \$25, with the alternative of two months' hard labour, was imposed.

DISTURBING HOSPITAL PATIENTS.

A Chinese woman was summoned for creating a nuisance near the Civil Hospital.

Inspector O'Sullivan stated that errors were frequently fired at unearthly hours of the night, disturbing the patients at the Hospital. The Police had received several complaints from the doctors on the subject.

A fine of \$3 was imposed with a caution.

BOY'S CRUELTY TO A CAT.

A Chinese boy was charged with cruelty to a cat.

It appeared that the Captain Superintendent of Police was walking along Wellington Street when he saw the boy holding a cat by the tail with a pair of pincers, and swinging it round.

Defendant's elder brother, who came to know of the affair, gave him a sound thrashing, and, in view of that fact, Mr. Dyer Ball discharged the defendant with a caution.

ALLEGED UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF OPIUM.

Two Chinese employed on the s.s. *Phenolph* were charged, on remand, with the unlawful possession of 3,485 taels of opium, not Government opium.

Mr. W. E. L. Shenton appeared for the first defendant, and Mr. M. K. Lo for the second defendant.

A Chinese revenue officer stated that at about 7 p.m. on the 15th instant he and four other revenue officers went on board the s.s. *Phenolph*. That same night at about 10.30 p.m. the first defendant came up to him and asked what he was doing.

Witness replied that he was a revenue officer and that there were four other revenue officers on the boat. The first defendant then offered him a bribe of \$400, to be divided amongst witness and his companions, if he allowed defendant to send away a quantity of opium which they had on the ship. Witness agreed, but the money was not to change hands until the opium was out of the ship. At about 9 a.m. witness saw a dinghy approaching on the port side. As soon as he saw the dinghy witness, who was on the bridge near the wheel-house, came to the deck and maintained a watch over No. 1 hold. There were a few men loitering in the vicinity of the hold, but he was unable to identify them. He then saw the first defendant haul up a bag from the hold. He was pulling it about half-way up when witness seized him. At the same time another revenue officer seized the second defendant, who was standing beside the first defendant, untying the ropes. Witness then blew a whistle, calling the Water Police launch. He left the defendants in the care of the other revenue officers while he went ashore to fetch Inspector Wilding. All the bags contained opium.

Cross-examined by Mr. Shenton, witness admitted that had the opium been allowed to leave the ship before he received the bribe, he would not be able to claim it. He was on the same deck as the second defendant, who is the quarter-master. The latter did not say anything to him about a bribe. He did not know whether anybody jumped overboard. He admitted that there was a scuffle, but denied that it had taken place before the arrest of the two defendants. To Mr. Shenton's suggestion that the second defendant, who was awakened by a pistol shot fired by witness, was arrested as he rushed out to find the cause of the disturbance, witness stated that defendant was arrested as he was standing beside the hold, untying the bags of opium.

After some further questions by Mr. Lo, the case was adjourned.

"OUR DAY" AT SWATOW. A VERY SUCCESSFUL EFFORT.

Success crowned the efforts of the Swatow branch of the Patriotic League of Britons Overseas to swell the coffers of the British Red Cross Society. Much has been done quietly in the past by the Port, and it was a pleasure to discover that the fears that the springs of charity were beginning to run dry were unfounded. One and all were united in the determination to make "Our Day" a success; but, nevertheless, the very satisfactory result achieved was in no small degree due to the untiring work of Mr. V. A. Maander. The organization for the Garden *etc.* was as near perfect as possible and the weather was glorious.

It was a little after three that residents began to gather in goodly numbers in the beautifully decorated gardens of Mr. Sim Kye Tang, which had been generously thrown open for the occasion by their owner. Upon entering, they were immediately pounced upon by a certain zealous gentleman anxious to exchange currency tickets for hard cash. A local wit had devoted his talent to compiling a "Programme of Events," and a previous experience having shown his capability in this art, a ready sale of the Programmes was effected. Goodly prizes were paid for the privilege of having a pretty rosette pinned into one's cap by a prettier member of the fair sex, whilst an equally charming damsel demurely assured one that payment was due for the cigars, etc., that had by some miraculous means found their way into one's pocket. Further fascination awaited one at the Sweet Stall, but it would not be hard to say which compelled the more attention—the faces on the boxes or the faces presiding at the Stall. Further on one fell into the charming toils of two of Swatow's most respected ladies. They had goodly things to sell; the prices were better; but their methods proving to you that you absolutely required the things they wished you to buy were best of all. All honour to them and their well-merited success. We were not long, however, in reaching the "Fun of the Fair." What a rush of children and gamble-loving Chinese to the Bran-Pie, presided over by two appealing members of the fair sex. You couldn't fail to draw a winner, but as the pie was eaten so you had to work harder for success. Yet it held to the last; perhaps the hope of securing the last "plum" kept the dippers there. "Aunt Sally" never had harder knocks, and ever her guardian began to feel alarmed about her health. Eager exponents of the art of football-kicking were anxious to show their prowess, but the "punt" of the afternoon fell to the unassuming lady who, having displayed her skill, modestly retired. It is true that she obtained the necessary lift to the ball by kicking off from a "tee," but that can surely be allowed to a pair of dainty shoes. Hou-pa furnished the *piece de resistance*. Our worthy Consul was determined to acquire these glittering wrist-watches, and before the lamps were lighted we were all pleased to see that perseverance had been rewarded. A bar for thirty souls was tucked away in one corner of the grounds, but it was found necessary in the end to transport a portion of its contents to the Hou-pa tables. The drawings for the open raffle prizes and, later, for the War Bonds, were eagerly followed. Our Chinese friends acquired the bulk of these prizes, a local Bank winning the \$1,000 War Bond. The proceedings were brought to a close with the usual Auction, the usual Auctioneer—too well known to require a name—again proving his worth. His shafts of wit and, at times, unconscious humour, brought in many a dollar. Bidding was brisk, and one local worthy is known to have made a successful bid, and, later, to have acquired again the same article kindly returned for further auction on his first procuring it, and, finally, to have lost it all unconsciously, too. Imagine his surprise when he was asked to pay for something which he bought twice and never received! Such was the spirit of the day, however, that the victim views the task of all fell to those ladies who presided over the tea arrangements—the tea being included in the price of entrance tickets. They had a thankless task, which they performed most efficiently, and the highest praise and best of thanks is due to them from all. During the afternoon our programmes advised us that we were to be favoured with selections by the "Band of the 1st Kialat Guards." These were eagerly awaited, perhaps with a touch of curiosity as to how, and with what results, a Swatow Chinaman would manipulate those musical instruments. We believe that it was the Band's first public appearance. May it not be the last.

Up to date the final figures have not been obtained, for can the total be ascertained until all outstanding are settled, and the various currencies in vogue brought to one base, but it is said that the total will not fall far short of \$5,000. It was a most successful four hours, ardently worked for and the results were well earned. The Committee of the Patriotic League are to be warmly congratulated.—Contributed.

ANOTHER LOAN FROM JAPAN FOR RUSSIA.

The Tokyo Government recently announced that an agreement has been entered into, whereby Japan agrees to float for Russia a loan of ¥66,000,000, on condition that the whole of the loan is taken up by the Japanese Treasury and not placed on the open market for subscription. The loan is to be redeemed in a year and to bear interest at six per cent. per annum. Of the loan, ¥50,000,000 will be covered by the receipts obtained by the Treasury from the issue of Exchange Bonds, and the remaining ¥16,000,000 will be taken up by the Treasury.

CANTON'S WAR CONTRIBUTIONS.

A further sum of £425 subscribed by British residents in Canton has been remitted to London during August, September and October as undernoted: Kensington War Hospital Supply

Depots	£109
King George's Fund for Sailors	50
Mine Sweepers' Fund	10
Officers' Families Fund	50
Prisoners-of-War Fund	150
Sailors' Widows and Orphans Fund	60
St. Dunstan's Home for Blind Soldiers	15
Total	£425

The following is a list of the subscribers for the last three months:—

Bander S.M., \$3; Batchelor R.K., \$20; Becke F.C., \$60; Bell F.N., \$75; Bennett E.S., \$80; Bowker G.H., \$80; Bray A.H., \$15; C., \$80; Campbell D., \$50; Canton Club Sailing Boat Raffle, \$180; Cassidy P.S. (Hongkong), \$30; Chan Chap Po, \$1; Charrington E.C., \$15; Chippendale J., \$15; de Courcy J.E.B., \$40; Craig A.H. (Kongmoon), \$15; Crocker J.H. (Nanning), \$80; Darch O.W., \$80; Dent H.E., \$150; Dixon P.A.V., \$15; Eager Q., \$80; Ellis H., \$30; Ford H.T., \$75; Forbes D., \$120; Friedrichsen E. (Kongmoon), \$18; Gaff Rev. Chas. A., \$15; Garrard E.E., \$40; Golf Club, \$70; Harris H.P., \$30; Hasstrup K., \$10; Hill P.L.O., \$10; Hogg A.V., \$30; Hooker Dr. A.W., \$30; Hutson A., \$30; Izatt D.B. (Kongmoon), \$15; Jamieson J.W., C.M.G., \$10; Jenkins Rev. P., \$15; Kavarana S.F., \$20; Kitching G.C., \$120; Komaroff A. (Kongmoon), \$15; MacDonald J., \$60; McNeur Geo. Revd., \$7.50; Martin A., \$15; Matheson R.T. \$50; Millar A. (Samsui), \$60; Peel C.A., \$80; Read G.L., \$90; Reynolds Dr. W.G., \$15; Sandeman H.H., \$60; Scrimshaw H.C. (Kongmoon), \$15; Shields C.H., \$150; Sikh Community, \$30; Smith H.S., \$30; Smith J.T., \$30; States W. Gordon, \$40; E.C.T., \$80; Tope Rev. S.G., \$30; Watson C.E., \$30; Weipart W.H.C., \$150; White R.J., \$30; Wilson A.G., \$30; Wood, E.M., \$60; Yung Chik Ting, \$15. Total—£2,909.50 and £10.

Copies of the Circular issued by the Committee with regard to War Charities can be obtained from the undernoted to whom further donations and subscriptions should be sent:—D. Forbes, Hon. Treasurer, c/o Hongkong Bank, Canton.

FAR EASTERN MEN AND THE WAR.

Mr. A. H. Collinson, formerly of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, who is at present Director of Inspection in Munition Areas, has been appointed by the Minister of Munitions to be Controller of Inspection in place of Sir Sothern Holland, appointed to the Admiralty for special work.

Friends of Mr. J. R. Allan, formerly of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., Shanghai, will regret to learn, as the *N.C. Daily News*, that a wire from the War Office advises his parents that their son was wounded in Palestine and is suffering from septicemia. A later telegram records slight improvement.

Major George Campbell Wheeler, Gurkha Rifles Indian Army, cousin of Mr. Sidney Wheeler of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Shanghai, has been awarded the Victoria Cross. For the most conspicuous bravery and determination. This officer, together with one Gurkha officer and eight men, crossed a river and immediately rushed the enemy's trench under heavy bombing, rifle, machine-gun, and artillery fire. Having obtained a footing on the river bank he was almost immediately afterwards counter-attacked by a strong enemy party with bombers. Major Campbell Wheeler at once led a charge with another officer and three men, receiving a severe bayonet wound in the head, but managed, in spite of this, to disperse the enemy. This bold action on his part undoubtedly saved the situation. In spite of his wound he continued to consolidate his position. Major Wheeler is the second son of Dr. Edwin Wheeler, of Yokohama.—*N.C. Daily News*.

F.M.S. TOWN PLANNING.

In the F.M.S. Gazette appears the draft of an enactment entitled "The Town Improvement Enactment." The "objects and reasons" appended state:—"The question of the adoption of town-planning legislation in these States has been for some time under consideration. Schemes for improvement of town-areas, otherwise than by wholesale resumption and re-arrangement at prohibitive cost to the public purse, are always liable to be blocked so long as no means, other than argument and persuasion, exist for overcoming dissent of parties concerned, and however necessary be the proposed improvements for the public convenience or the public health. The Bill provides for the framing, by Sanitary Boards, of improvement schemes of various kinds and for the presentation of objections and criticisms by persons concerned, and makes the sanction of the High Commission a condition precedent to the execution of a scheme. It also provides power to deal (otherwise than by means of) with evils arising from congestion of buildings and from insanitary dwelling houses. The provisions of the Bill are modelled to a very great extent on Part III. of Ceylon Ordinance No. 19 of 1915 ('The Housing and Town Improvement Ordinance')."

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD

& CO.

SOLE AGENTS FOR SPALDING'S ATHLETIC GOODS.

SPALDING'S "GOLD MEDAL" GOLF CLUBS.

LADIES' MODELS AND GENT'S MODELS.

INCLUDING

DRIVERS.

MASHIES.

BAFFIES.

MID IRONS.

BRASSIES.

DRIVING IRONS.

JIGGERS.

PUTTERS.

LOFTERS.

NIBLICS.

CLEEKS.

MASHIE NIBLICS.

No. EWB.

HICKORY SHAFTS.

ACCESSORIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

18

ANDERSEN, MEYER & CO., LIMITED.

Hotel Mansions.

Telephone 1990.

GENERAL IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS.

Exceptional facilities for quick delivery of

General Imports.



[1185]

Wm. Powell Ltd

TELEPHONE 346

ARE SHOWING

SPECIAL SPORTING MATERIALS.

COATS \$15.00 TO \$30.00 IN HOMESPUNS, SCOTCH AND REAL HARRIS TWEEDS.

[39]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

HONGKONG GOVERNMENT 6% WAR LOAN OF 1916.
 Coupon No. 2.
 Payable 1st November, 1917.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that as the DEFINITIVE BONDS have not yet arrived from England, the Payment of the Dividend due on 1st November, 1917, will be made by a Provisional Coupon. Scrip Certificates should be presented to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Hongkong, on 1st November, 1917, when the relative Provisional Coupon will be issued.

E. D. C. WOLFE,
 Colonial Treasurer.
 Hongkong, 26th October, 1917. [1208]

GULA-KALUMPONG RUBBER ESTATES, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TRANSFER REGISTER of the above Company will be CLOSED from 31st October to 12th November, both days inclusive.

By Order,
 LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,
 Colonial Register.
 Hongkong, 26th October, 1917. [1209]

"GLEN" LINE, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship

"GLENGYLE" having arrived Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained. Goods not cleared by the 2nd Nov. at 5 P.M. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined by Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, on the 2nd Nov. at 10 A.M.

Claims against the Steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 26th October, 1917. [1210]

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

R.S. "BENLOMOND."

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 1st Nov. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 7th Nov., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 1st Nov. at 11 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 26th October, 1917. [1203]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM SHANGHAI, KOBE AND MOJI.

THE Steamship

"JAPAN" having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 1st Nov. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd., Agents.

Hongkong, 27th October, 1917. [124]

NOTICE.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

THE CERTIFICATE for one Share No. 1401 in this Company standing in the name of WILLIAM DE ROBERTS of Yokohama, Japan, has been LOST, and if at the expiration of one month from the date hereof the above document be not forthcoming, another Certificate for the said Share will be issued by the Company and thereafter no other will be acknowledged.

C. H. P. HAY,
 per pro. General Manager.
 Hongkong, 4th October, 1917. [1116]

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

THE CERTIFICATE No. 4309 for two Shares Nos. 8771 and 17848 in this Company standing in the name of Mrs. ANNA JOSEFA CARRERO DE LEONARDO (deceased), late of Macao, has been LOST, and if at the expiration of one month from the date hereof the above document be not forthcoming, another certificate for the said Shares will be issued by the Company and thereafter no other will be acknowledged.

C. H. P. HAY,
 per pro. General Manager.
 Hongkong, 5th October, 1917. [1116]

INTIMATIONS

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.
 OPENING CRUISE.

THE OPENING CRUISE of the above Club will take place TO-DAY (SATURDAY), 27th instant, when there will be Ladies' Races for the Handicap, One Design, Hayward Hays and Gael Class of Yachts.

There will also be a race for Cruisers of Chinese and English Rig, and a Scratch Four-Over Contest.

Competitors should be in attendance at the Club House not later than 2.30 P.M.

D. K. BLAIR,
 Hon. Sec. Sailing Committee.
 Hongkong, 26th October, 1917. [1189]

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

THE FIFTH GYMKHANA MEETING of the Season will be held at HAPPY VALLEY, TO-DAY (SATURDAY), the 27th October, 1917, commencing at 3.15 P.M. The Charge of Admission will be \$1 for others than Members of the HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB or GYMKHANA CLUB.

Soldiers and Sailors in uniform Free.

The Committee invite the Ladies of Hongkong to be present. [1188]

OUR + DAY.

ADDITIONAL.

BY kind arrangement with Messrs. J. J. BLAKE and M. S. COWAN, The "OUR DAY" Committee have pleasure in announcing that

THE CAMEOS

will give a Special Performance under the Patronage of His Excellency The Governor, Sir F. H. MAY, K.C.M.G., His Excellency Major-General VENTRIS, Commodore SANDERSON, R.N.,

at the

VICTORIA THEATRE,

ON MONDAY, 29TH OCTOBER, at 9.10 P.M.

THE WHOLE OF THE NET PROCEEDS

WILL BE GIVEN TO "OUR DAY" FUND.

Booking at MOUTRIE'S opens To-day (Wednesday), 24th October, at 9 A.M.

Stalls \$3

Dress Circle \$2

[1185]

THE PENANG HARBOUR BOARD.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the position of GENERAL MANAGER of the PENANG HARBOUR BOARD.

Applicants should have a thorough knowledge of all Shipping Matters, including the loading and unloading of Cargo and Coal, and Warehousing.

Applications, stating salary required, should be addressed to the Local Chairman, PENANG HARBOUR BOARD, Penang.

[1205]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LEASE.

SUITABLE FIRMS may obtain Office Rooms in Missions Building, The Bund, Canton.

Apply—JACOB SPEICHER,

Secretary-Treasurer,

Missions Building, The Bund, Canton.

[1201]

TO LET.

AT the Peak, HALF-HOUSE, furnished, within easy distance of the tram.

Moderate rental.

Write—Box 40,

Care of "Daily Press" Office.

[1190]

TO LET.

OFFICES in King's Buildings.

HOUSES in Moreton Terrace and Broadwood Terrace.

HOUSES on Shamsen, Canton.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd.

[123]

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry. Four very desirable SHOPS, situated in Lee House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.

For rent and other particulars apply to—

THE MANAGER,

HONGKONG ICE Co., Ltd.,

46, Connaught Road Central.

[1203]

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.

Apply to—

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.

Alexandra Buildings. [1241]

TO BE SOLD.

"GLENSHIEL" and "GLENSHIEL BUNGALOW," 140 and 141, THE PRINCE.

Apply to—

Box 543,

Care of "Daily Press" Office.

[1206]

INTIMATION

EVERY CAKE OF

WATSON'S



IS GUARANTEED TO CONTAIN THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF PURE CARBOLIC ACID SPECIFIED.

SUPPLIED IN 3 STRENGTHS

VIZ.:

5% FOR TOILET USE.

PRICE \$1.20 per box of three cakes.

10% FOR THE BATH.

PRICE \$1.75 per box of three cakes.

20% MEDICAL BATH SOAP.

PRICE 75 CENTS per cake.

TO BE OBTAINABLE ONLY FROM

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

HONGKONG AND CHINA.

TELEPHONE 16.

[12]

BIRTH.

LUKE—At Matilda Hospital, on 25th October, to Mr. and Mrs. W. G. LUKE, a daughter.

[1207]

DEATH.

HOWARD—At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on October 21st, WILLIAM HOWARD, Chinese Maritime Customs Service, aged 53 years.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOGES ROAD, C. LONDON, OFFICE: 121, FLEET STREET, E.C.

THE Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 27TH OCTOBER, 1917.

TWO ASPECTS OF THE WAR.

THE longer the war continues, the more terrible become the methods employed in waging it.

To the Germans belong the responsibility for this. It was they who introduced the use of poison-gas and flame-projectors, and compelled their opponents to resort to similar weapons in self-defence.

Now, by their repeated air-raids upon unfortified towns, they have forced the British to embark upon a policy of reprisals as the only means of saving the lives of helpless women and children.

Happily, we have not been obliged to follow the example of the Germans in all their atrocities, for they have stripped warfare of almost every possibility of chivalry towards the enemy and have reduced it to such a state of brutality that the whole of the civilized world will re-echo the "loud applause" which greeted the PRIME MINISTER's recent declaration that "We must settle this once and for all."

That announcement was made by Mr. Lloyd George as the only logical conclusion of an argument in which he had outlined the terrors brought about by the horrible instruments used in the present war.

If we were to contemplate only the cold-blooded manner in which these new destructive powers have been introduced, and the inevitable sequel that all the belligerents must finally resort to them however much such a course may outrage their finer feelings, we might well despair of the future of humanity.

But, despite all these new brutalizing agencies, acts of heroism and self-sacrifice, still shine forth conspicuously amid the welter and carnage of the battlefields. At no period

in the history of the world has greater care been taken of the wounded and the dying, than in Europe to-day. Never have non-combatants been so eager to devote their energies and their money to the alleviation of suffering. Side by side with the inflexible determination to shirk from no sacrifice that may be necessary to make the German nation realize the infamy of its past conduct, there is throughout the Empire an equally intense desire to mitigate the pain, and distress inseparable from war and to show gratitude to the men fighting in defence of civilization.

When we consider the organizations which enable us all to take a share in ministering to the welfare of our gallant troops we instinctively think first of the Red Cross Society. Hongkong has recently expressed, in a practical manner, its appreciation of the beneficent work of that organization. Something, else, however, is required besides an efficient ambulance and medical service for those at the front. Modern warfare has become so horrible that no man can take part in it without feeling the terrible mental strain. Some form of relaxation is essential when the troops are withdrawn from the trenches. It would be very natural, in the great reaction which must follow a spell in the fighting line, if a man should attempt to forget the near past by sheer dissipation, and it is a matter of pride to the whole Empire that instances of this are extremely rare. It is only possible to prevent their occurrence, however, by providing wholesome recreation and comfortable surroundings for the men who are resting. This fact was recognized early in the campaign by the Y.M.C.A. By adopting a broad-minded attitude and looking after the creature comforts of the fighting men, this organization has gained for itself a splendid reputation. It has proved, in a practical manner, that the muscular Christianity advocated by CHARLES KINGSLEY can make a successful appeal to men who are impatient with abstract discussions about creeds. The work carried on by such an organization is much more effective than anything which could be attempted by the State. With all Government Departments red-tape, in some form or other, is inevitable. The advantage of enthusiasm for their own particular Association among the workers—many of whom are voluntary—is obvious. Flexibility is permissible, and there is a human touch which State organizations never obtain. The latest reports show that there are now over twelve hundred men and women of the Association in France giving all their time to the work, which is as varied as it is useful. Especially valuable have been the efforts to look after the relatives of those who have been dangerously wounded and to trace the movements of the men from Overseas. A proof of the fact that the many huts erected for the troops are appreciated is the call for forty-five new ones in the base camps. The splendid response to the appeal which we made last year for a "Hongkong Hut" at the front encourages the hope that the request for additional huts, still needed in France will not pass unheeded in this Colony.

The pupils of Saiyungpau School realised \$385.68 from the sale of roses on "Our Day."

Owing to the scarcity of beef the whole-sale and retail dealers in the Colony have been authorised to raise the price of the various kinds of beef by fifteen per cent. until further notice.

The Bishop of Victoria will to-morrow celebrate the Holy Communion at the Peak Church at 8.15 a.m., preach at St. Paul's Chinese Church at 11 a.m., and at the Cathedral at 6 p.m.

At the Summary Court yesterday the case was called in which Mr. Robert Howard is suing A. Ogilvie for the sum of \$3. Mr. Faithfull, who was representing the plaintiff, said that his client had recently died, but that plaintiff's attorney, Mrs. Babbage, was in the Colony. He asked for an adjournment which was granted. An adjournment was also granted in another case in which H. E. Stoneham is suing A. Ogilvie for \$150. Mr. D. V. Stevenson, for the plaintiff, remarked that the case had already been adjourned once and he wished to proceed. Mr. Gardiner, for the defendant, said his client was in the country and it was not known when he would be back. As defendant had a wife and children here, however, it was not likely that he would run away.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN ANOMALY.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR.—According to the Order in Council of 2nd February, 1895, the Mexican Silver Dollar is the standard coin of this Colony, but I find that when I tender Hongkong Mexicans (or their equivalent) to the Post Office in Hongkong, or to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank anywhere in North China I am "squeezed" to the extent of from 6 to 10 per cent. before I can obtain payment of the same. Merry Mexicans in the Treaty Ports.

Perhaps, some of your financial expert readers can explain this anomaly.

Is it possible that the Hongkong Government and the Bank are amongst the "profiteers"?—Yours truly,

PUZZLED

—

AUCTION BRIDGE.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR.—In to-day's issue of your paper, your correspondent "Old Etonian" shows himself not entirely up to date in his subject and also commits himself to the statement, which is I believe incorrect, that most Bridge players in Hongkong follow the so-called American code of rules.

As a matter of fact the Portland Club recently held a meeting with the representatives of other prominent London Clubs at which it was decided to adopt the American innovations by which, for example, the call of "Four Clubs" bents "Three Spades" and even "Three No Trumps," etc., and to amend the 1914 Portland Rules, accordingly. Hence what "Old Etonian" calls the "American Code" is now the official English code also.

Secondly, although the new rules have for some months past been in force at the Hongkong Club, the 1914 Portland Club Rules are still followed at the Peak Club, U.S.R.C. and K.C.C. and generally as far as I am aware at private houses both in Hongkong and Kowloon. This, it seems to me is the true answer to "Antiquated Outposts" original query.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

R. E. LINDSELL

Hongkong, October 26th, 1917.

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

CANTON, October 26th

NEUTRALITY OF KIANGSI.

The Authorities have received a telegram from the Kiangsi Tsuchun stating that Kiangsi is neutral. The Tsuchun also stated that the troops sent to the Kiangsi borders are only for provincial defence.

DISAPPEARANCE OF M.P.S.

It is said that over 60 M.P.s. have disappeared from Canton. The people are surprised.

A LONG CONSULTATION.

The Provisional Government, owing to the unrest, called a meeting of all the military and naval leaders. The conference lasted nearly the whole day, and most of those present desired that the disputes should be settled peacefully.

We learn that the Tsuchun, Chan Ping-kwan, has decided, after consultation with the leaders, to settle the Swatow affairs by force of arms.

GENERAL LUNG TO ATTACK KWANGSI.

A message states that General Lung Chai-kwong, by order and with the support of the Premier, will attack Kwangsi. It is said that over 20 regiments have been recruited by Lung's staff and that the recruits are busy training in Kingchow.

PROTECTION FOR AMERICANS.

The American Consul has requested the Tsuchun to protect the Americans and their properties in Hunan. The Tsuchun has accordingly wired to General Lung Wing-tung asking him to give the necessary instructions to the leaders in that province.

PAWN-BROKERS' STRIKE.

The Pawnbrokers in Canton are on strike as a protest against the stamp-duty.

THE TUCHUN'S VISITORS.

A few Japanese officials, who came from Formosa, were introduced by the Japanese Consul to the Tsuchun yesterday. They were entertained to luncheon.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

SOUTHERN DELEGATES VISIT PEKING.

PEKING, October 26th.

Hwang Shao-jo, the representative of Li Yao-han (Civil Governor of Canton) has arrived at Peking and has handed to the authorities Li Yao-han's letter stating that he will obey the Government. Li Fu-lun, one of the Canton leaders, also sent a delegate to the President and Premier to present Lung Chi-kwong's letter.

Fu Liang-tso (Hunan Tsuchun) wired to Peking that his troops have occupied Paoching.

Wu Kwan-shin arrived at Chung-ching yesterday.

Li Ho-ki (Fukien Tsuchun) has sent troops to Chachow to help Mo King-yu.

Tang Chi-yao (Yunnan Tsuchun) has wired to the Hupsh Tsuchun to oppose Tan Chi-sai (the Premier).

The Government has ordered Ghang Tso-lin to mediate with Men Gun-yuan.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET.

Messrs. Vernon & Smyth, in their weekly share report dated October 26th, state:—

Our last report was dated 18th October, and in the early part of the week under review our local market was firm and fairly active, but on a sharp recovery in Sterling Exchange a period of dullness supervened, and we close with a quiet market in both investment and speculative stocks. Shanghai has been firm, and a fair business is reported from there. Singapore market for Rubber shares has been firm but very quiet and prices show but little alteration. The following are our to-day's quotations for Rubber shares:—

Plantation Rubber in London is quoted 2/8. Bar Silver is quoted 41s. Sterling T.T. is 2/8. Singapore T.T. is 119s. Shanghai T.T. is nominal at about 63s. and the Bank's buying rate for 3 d/s bills is nominal at about 62s.

RUBBER.—Market has been quieter, and after sales at \$670, closes with sellers at this figure.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been done at \$805, at which rate shares are now offering. Cansons can be placed at \$320. North Chinas are wanted at Tls. 115, and Yangtszes at \$205 with exchange 73.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires have buyers at \$310, and China Fires at \$131.

SHIPPING.—A fair business was done early in the week in Indo-China deferred, both for cash and forward delivery, but market has since eased, and they close with a nominal quotation of \$118. Douglas have met with a better enquiry, and sales were made at \$73 and \$73, at which latter price they close nominal. Steamboats have been the medium of a fair business from \$17

THE WAR.

THE FRENCH PUSH.

SPLENDID ACHIEVEMENTS.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

VAST AUSTRO-GERMAN MOVEMENT.

CHINA AND THE WAR.

STATEMENT BY MR. BALFOUR.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

BRITISH REPULSE RAIDS.

LONDON, October 26th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The enemy's attempted raid last night, to the eastward of Loos was met by rifle and machine-gun fire and failed to reach the wire.

Two raiding parties, this morning, attacked our line to the northward of the La Bassée Canal. One was repulsed before reaching our trenches and the other entered the trenches but was driven out.

We took a few prisoners during the night.

There were patrol encounters to the eastward of Ypres.

Our artillery is active.

AVIATION REPORT.

LONDON, October 26th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports on aviation states:—Our aeroplane squadrons, last night, attacked factories and railway communications in the vicinity of Saarbrücken, with excellent results. Our naval machines dropped over 33 tons of explosives on Burscheid works, to the westward of Saarbrücken. The damage was considerable and there were many fires. Another squadron dropped 3,350 lbs. of bombs on railway stations, junctions and goods sidings round about Saarbrücken. There were many direct hits and numerous explosions. A big bomb destroyed a train which was proceeding to Saarbrücken. A total of five tons of bombs were dropped. The anti-aircraft defences were strong.

The weather conditions at first were good but later they were very bad, with rain, low clouds and a strong wind rendering the return of our machines most difficult. The weather on the British Front, on Wednesday slightly improved, and 154 bombs were dropped on billets, twelve heavy bombs on the aerodrome at Contrail and 71 on the troops in the trenches, and open fighting was occasionally severe. Five hostile machines were brought down and three were driven down. Six of ours are missing.

THE IRRESISTIBLE FRENCH.

PARIS, October 26th.

A communiqué states:—There was a general advance this morning, beyond the positions reached yesterday evening, bordering the Oise-Aisne Canal. The village and forest of Pinon and also the village of Pargny Filain are in our hands, and south of Filain, which our patrols have penetrated, we occupy the farms of St. Martins and Chapelle St. Berthe.

The enemy, under our pressure, was compelled to abandon much material, including twenty guns of which several are six inch mortars. Altogether, 120 guns have been captured since October 23rd. We counted in addition several hundred mine-throwers and machine-guns.

We took over 2,000 prisoners during the day and over 11,000 prisoners, including 200 officers have been taken since the beginning of the operations.

The Germans, on the right of the Meuse followed up their morning bombardment at Bois le Châme with an attack, which our fire stopped.

1,000 PRISONERS CAPTURED IN ONE DAY.

PARIS, October 26th.

In to-day's attack on the Aisne Front, the total number of prisoners taken has now reached 1,000.

Altogether 100 guns have been captured. PROGRESS FAR BEYOND LIMITS ASSIGNED.

LONDON, October 26th.

Reuters' Correspondent at French Headquarters telegraphing yesterday states:—This afternoon, on the right, our victory was completed by the capture of the villages of Pargny and Filain.

In this region, and in the forest of Pinon the enemy was forced to abandon a large number of guns which have not been counted. They killed their horses by artillery fire when they realised the impossibility of removing the guns through the French barbed wire.

We progressed, on the left, far beyond the limits assigned for on October 22nd.

Our troops are in the highest fettle.

Our patrols were in touch with the enemy at the Oise-Aisne canal at nine o'clock this morning.

Tanks are co-operation in clearing out the enemy from his nests in the forest.

SIGNS OF CONFUSION.

LONDON, October 26th.

Following up Tuesday's victory the troops continued to advance towards the Oise-Aisne canal, from the west and the south.

At Pinon over 400 prisoners were taken, including a Battalion Commander. There are now signs of confusion and disorganisation in the German forces, south of the canal. A captured German command paper contained contradictory orders. First he was instructed to retire and subsequently, to hold the positions at any cost. Another Order provided for the abandonment of a battery of four mortars, after the removal of the breechlocks.

The French now hold all the heights on the south bank of the canal, above the western end of the Ailette valley and are firmly established on the receding slopes from Vauxaillon to Chavignon.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH FRONT.

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, October 26th.

A German wireless official message states:—Our advanced troops in the Pinon, Chavignon and Ailette region have withdrawn behind the Oise-Aisne Canal, owing to French pressure.

FAILURE OF GERMAN ATTACK.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We completely repulsed another strong counter-attack last night, south of Houthulst Wood.

The Gloucesters, Worcesters and Berkshires successfully held positions between Roux, and Gavrelle, killing many and destroying dug-outs.

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, October 26th.

A German wireless official message states:—The enemy is indulging in very violent fighting between Houthulst Wood and Passchendaele.

FRENCH FRONT.

GERMAN REPORT DENIED.

PARIS, October 26th.

A semi-official message states:—The two French attacks on Chemin-des-Dames mentioned in the German communiqué are entirely imaginary.

FRENCH AGAIN ADVANCE.

PARIS, October 26th.

A communiqué states:—The situation north of the Aisne, in the sector of Bray-en-Laonnois and Chavignon, is unchanged.

At night-time we again advanced on the Chavignon-Mont des Singes front and reached Nozay farm.

We have taken over 200 prisoners here since last evening. An enemy surprise attack at Sapignoul bridgehead, preceded by a violent bombardment, failed.

German airmen dropped two bombs on Nancy, but there were no victims.

Twenty-five enemy aeroplanes were brought down or fell down in their own lines uncontrolled.

Naval Activities.

PARIS, October 26th.

A wireless Russian official message states that the enemy retired fifteen miles in the Biga region near the Pskov highroad and Little Jagel.

The Russian vanguards in some sectors lost touch with the retreating Germans. The enemy destroyed all buildings, roads and bridges during their retreat.

The Russians repulsed the enemy's attempts to land at Tomba to the south of Waider.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET READY.

HELSINGFORS, October 26th.

The Russian fleet is in complete readiness for guarding the entrance to the Gulf of Finland. The crews of the ships who have come ashore here are unanimous in praising the skill of the Admiral in evacuating Moon Sound.

The town is not regarded as being menaced and no measures have been taken towards its evacuation.

DEPLORABLE ATTITUDE OF RUSSIAN TROOPS.

PETROGRAD, October 26th.

A sailor delegate of the Fleet Committee who went to the Baltic Islands to watch the military operations was taken prisoner and escaped.

He reports that the attitude of some of the Russian troops was deplorable. The Germans were aided by espionage which was rampant in the islands, the inhabitants signalling and spreading out sheets in order to guide the German airmen.

CIVILIANS LEAVE KRONSTADT.

PETROGRAD, October 26th.

The evacuation of Kronstadt by the civilian population has begun.

THE ENEMY'S INTENTION.

PETROGRAD, October 26th.

The German withdrawal on the Riga front amounted to about 18 miles in two days. It was most pronounced to the north of Friedland.

Apparently the enemy intend to establish themselves behind the Dvina and to hold the right bank purely in order to protect Riga.

Italian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

ITALIAN FRONT.

SITUATION OBSCURE.

LONDON, October 26th.

The situation on the Italian Front is at present obscure.

The Minister of War, to-day, electrified the Italian Chamber by a strong speech, reassuring the members that the Italians were fully prepared and that the enemy would never tread on Italian soil.

VAST AUSTRO-GERMAN MOVEMENT.

LONDON, October 26th.

Reuters' Correspondent at Italian Headquarters, telegraphing yesterday, states that the weather has broken, with mud and slush everywhere. Nevertheless the artillery duel is ever increasing in extent and volume, and is beginning to reveal the vast nature of the Austro-German movement, which stretches from Pizzo to the Carso. The Second and Third Armies are offering a most stubborn resistance and are ready to pass to the offensive directly opportunity offers.

The Italians are using their machine guns to the utmost to stem the enemy, and the British artillery is playing a great part therein.

EARLIER CABLES.

ENEMY CROSSES THE ISONZO.

LONDON, October 26th.

An Italian official message states:—The enemy launched a strong attack, after a very violent bombardment, especially between Mount Rombo and the northern edge of the Bainsizza plateau.

We resisted at Sago but further to the south the enemy penetrated our advanced lines on the left bank of the Isonzo. He crossed the river at Saint Maria and Saint Lucia.

We checked powerful attacks west of Volnik and also on the western slopes of Mont San Gabriele where our counter-attacks yielded a few hundred prisoners.

GERMAN CLAIMS.

LONDON, October 26th.

A German official message says:—There are further successes to report near Fitch and Tolmino. There are many prisoners and the booty is increasing.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE PETROLEUM BILL.

NO ROYALTIES.

LONDON, October 26th.

In the House of Commons, the Government proposals with regard to royalties to landowners, where petroleum might be found, were defeated by 44 votes to 13.

No importance is attached to this in connection with the Bill which assures the Government control of petroleum that might be discovered in the United Kingdom, which passed its second reading on October 16th.

During a subsequent discussion, the various members voting for the majority explained that the adverse vote was simply prompted by their dislike of the proposed royalties clause.

THE ELECTORAL REFORM BILL.

The Electoral Reform Bill has passed all stages.

It provides for voting by soldiers and sailors by post for those in the near war theatres and by proxy for those in the more distant regions. The arrangement is for the period of the war and twelve months afterwards.

THE TEA SUPPLY.

LONDON, October 26th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Parker, representing the Food Controller, stated that the purchase of tea in India and Ceylon, on Government account was being arranged. The bulk of the shipments could not reach the United Kingdom before January, but it was anticipated that normal supplies would be available thereafter and retail prices would be materially reduced.

NO WINTER RACING.

LONDON, October 26th.

The President of the Board of Trade has announced that there will be no winter racing.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, October 26th.

The Silver Market is quiet.

EARLIER CABLES.

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

MAXIMALISTS' DEMANDS.

PETROGRAD, October 26th.

The local Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates, at a stormy sitting, adopted a Maximalist resolution in favour of a speedy peace, accusing M. Kerensky of wishing to surrender Petrograd to the enemy, and re-demanding the handing over of all power to soldiers, instructing the Executive to propose an armistice to all nations, but, pending peace, Petrograd must be defended and the completeness of the Army restored.

PROVISIONING THE ARMY.

At the Preliminary Parliament, which is being held pending the meeting of the Constituent Assembly, General Verkhovsky, Minister of War, declared that the main object of the enemy in penetrating into Russia, was to produce a psychological effect which would drive Russia to a dishonourable peace. Commanders and regimental committees were beginning to work amicably to restore the combativeness of the Army, but the provisioning of the Army was seriously hampered by the refusal of certain provinces, which had plenty of bread, to give it to the Army. The Government proposed to establish regimental disciplinary tribunals which would settle all cases in forty-eight hours. Those guilty of indiscipline would be severely punished.

Admiral Verdevsky, Minister of Marine, referred to the feeble productivity of the munition works and the disorganisation of transport. Women must work day and night in order that Russia should not be even weaker in the spring than she was now. He admitted that the relations between the officers and the blue-jackets were very strained at Helsingfors, where there was bloodshed, but the question of discipline was spontaneously settled on a basis of mutual condonance by sailors and officers of warships participating in the battles in the Gulf of Riga.

General Alexeeff declared that unless normal economic life was restored, Russia would cease to be a great power. The Army must save itself, as it could not at present depend on the rear.

M. Kerensky protested against General Alexeeff's statement that the Army was incapable of fulfilling its duty, and declared that, but for fanatics and traitors, Russia and the Allies would have an honourable peace by Christmas.

BRITISH INVALUABLE HELP APPRECIATED.

LONDON, October 26th.

The Admiralty announces that M. Kerensky has telegraphed to Sir Eric Geddes the Army's thanks for the valuable and heroic work of Commander Lecker Lampon's Armoured Car Division on the south-west front and adds:—The Russians look forward with pride to their continuing co-operation until the end of this gigantic struggle against the enemy of the whole world.

Sir Eric, returning warm thanks, says:—I am confident that the squadron will continue to fight gallantly with their Russian comrades for the great cause we have determined shall triumph.

GERMAN WAR MAP.

LONDON, October 26th.

General Smuts, continuing his speech at Sheffield, the first part of which was reported in yesterday's issue, said:—We cannot make peace until the German war map has become a scrap of paper and not an inch thereof is retained. Peace-making will be an enormous task, more difficult than war making. The nations must know what was going to happen when their statesmen went to the conference. We did not want secret diplomacy. He objected to peace by negotiation until he knew what had become of the German war map. Fundamental principles must be settled before we entered into a peace conference.

If Germany would not submit genuine, honest peace proposals we were prepared to go on. Cheers. Germany's whole economic future was compromised unless she made in time satisfactory peace proposals. The longer she waited the worse would be her fate.

SUBMARINE LOSSES.

Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, referring to losses from submarines, said they had been extremely serious, but they were gradually and steadily being reduced. September figures were very good. Those for October would not be so good. There were bound to be ups and downs, but he had every hope that before long an improvement would be made on the September figures. There was no reason for anxiety as to the result of the enemy's submarine campaign provided the strictest economy was exercised. Our Navy would pull through. The spirit of the German Navy was showing signs of decline. There was no such spirit of discontent of any sort in the British fleet.

SHIPBUILDING IN JAPAN.

TOKYO, October 26th.

The shipbuilding programme provides for the building of three hundred thousand tons during the fiscal year ending April, 1918.

Thirty-five vessels of a tonnage of 154,777 have already been launched.

THE MRS. BESANT QUESTION.

HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATE.

LONDON, October 26th.

In the House of Lords, Lord Sydenham reviewed the Besant case and moved for the following papers:—The admirable reply of the Viceroy to a Press deputation in March, the speech of Lord Pentland and the Note of the Government of Madras justifying Mrs. Besant's internment, as well as the manifesto of the Joint Congress. He said he hoped the reforms would not take the form of concessions to a noisy party aiming to establish an oligarchy in India and to take the utmost advantage of Britain's present difficulties so as to be given full freedom of action.

Lord Lansdowne also reviewed Mrs. Besant's "sinister activities," which, he said, were bound to have most dangerous effects. He recalled the opinion in this connection expressed by the Judge of the High Court when refusing her appeal, the Viceroy's agreement with the finding, and Mr. Chamberlain's descriptions of her agitation as likely to become highly dangerous and even disastrous in India, if it continued. There were few countries in the world where a person, guilty of such practices, would not be invited to leave the country. It was said that internment was a measure, and not a punitive measure, but the mass of people in India were unable to appreciate the distinction. In their eyes Mrs. Besant was interned because she committed serious offences and released because the authorities, Mrs. Besant's promise to co-operate in securing a calmer atmosphere during Mr. Montagu's visit was not an undertaking to cease writing seditious letters. In order to obtain a fairly quiet time for you going to run away from something or another it is over in order to get a calm surface regardless of the under-currents or the storm muttering in the distance. The need for caution was greatly increased by the fact that Mr. Montagu announced himself in favour of a very strong Home Rule policy in India.

Lord Lansdowne contrasted Mr. Montagu's intemperate attack on the system of Indian government in the course of the Mosopotamian debate in July, with the prudent and cautious spirit characterising Lord Islington's lecture at Oxford a month later. He pointed out that Lord Islington was then a member of the Government. Mr. Montagu's speech after joining the Government was much more cautious. He then spoke of the increasing association of Indians in every branch of the Administration and the general development of self-governing institutions. We all readily endorse those objects, but the fact remains that there are two Montagus, official and unofficial. I am afraid that Mr. Montagu, whom malecontents are prepared to welcome with open arms, is the unofficial Montagu and that he will be received by a great many as an apostle of the Home Rule movement, as a man who has come to overthrow the Indian Government root and branch from the Home Rule point of view.

The mission that Mr. Montagu undertakes was most delicate, and they must expect his language and actions in India to be scrutinised most narrowly. I am sure that a man of Mr. Montagu's great ability will recognise the necessity of proceeding warily to avoid all appearance of paltering with the kind of disaffection which is rampant in many parts of India. It is because I feel strongly how great are the dangers of this somewhat adventurous policy that I regret the blunder committed by Mrs. Besant's treatment, which has greatly alarmed the loyal classes in India.

Lord Islington, replying, reviewed the circumstances of Mrs. Besant's internment and release, in a similar manner to Mr. Montagu on October 10th. Regarding the assurances received by the Raj, he said that he was not at liberty to state exactly the manner in which they were given, but they were such as to impress the Viceroy with the belief that there would be no recurrence of the agitation. They impressed the India Office in a similar manner. Subsequently the Viceroy received Mrs. Besant's telegram which was sent before she was informed of the instruction for her release. The Raj's action was in no wise an act of timidity and vacillation, but a course highly expedient at a moment of reform. The pronouncement made thousands of moderate Indians throughout India, who had mistakenly regarded the restrictions placed on Mrs. Besant as an attempt to suppress free discussion of self-government, although it was only her unconstitutional methods they desired to check, and to their share in maintaining a distracting controversy prejudicial to the success of Mr. Montagu's mission. Regarding the apprehensions of a section of the European community, he appealed them to exercise patience and forbearance in an extremely difficult situation, to refrain from anything likely to embarrass the position, to co-operate in their efforts to devise suitable schemes of reform, and to do their share in bringing about a situation consonant with the reasonable demands of the country in the best interests of India and its people. Regarding the interference by the Raj with the discretion of the Madras Government, Lord Islington said that he would advocate greater freedom for provincial Governments, but this was a case affecting the whole of India, wherein the ultimate decision must rest with the Raj. The Government of Madras admitted that there might be considerations of policy other than those governing the locality and that the desirability of removing the restrictions might be left to the Raj. Madras had loyally accepted the latter's decision. He was asked why a question of great Constitutional change was raised in the midst of a war. (Cheers.) The question involved had agitated India for years. Lord Harding had impressed the necessity of important political changes, and Lord Chelmsford had impressed the gravity of the situation, while the Raj had long impressed the Home Government with the urgency of reforms. It was true that Lord Harding thought it might stand over till after the war, but he (Lord Islington) was sure he reckoned on an earlier peace. For some time before the Cabinet's decision, the Government telegraphed

constantly that agitation was increasing and would increase in the absence of a declaration of policy, and Mrs. Besant and her propaganda were but a symptom, and the decision to release her was not the decision of the Viceroy alone but of the Viceroy and Council. The announcement of August 20th cleared the air, and, as far as he was aware, there had been no recrudescence of agitation in Madras.

Lord Islington then read the following telegram from the Viceroy received to-day:—"The main cause of dissatisfaction among Europeans is the belief that the Secretary of State has overruled the Raj and the Government of Madras. You can make it quite clear that I acted on my own responsibility and the Government of Madras accepted my decision. Such restrictions on Mrs. Besant's ingress to other Provinces as was previously in force have been removed by the Local Governments entirely on their own initiative. We have no reason to be dissatisfied with the result of the release. The reception of Mrs. Besant in various centres has naturally been the cause of minor local excitement, to which no importance need be attached. Mrs. Besant's references have been moderate and in keeping with her undertaking to me."

Lord Islington deprecated the saying of papers and did not hesitate to say that if Mrs. Besant abused the consideration shown her, the Raj, with the full concurrence of the Secretary of State, would immediately take the necessary steps to stop her violent methods. If such measures were necessary, the action now taken by the Raj would go far to deprive her of sympathy. Lord Islington emphasised the representative character of the delegation accompanying Sir E. Montagu. No announcement of any decision of policy would be made while the mission was in India. Whatever decisions were reached as an outcome of the Conference they would be transmitted by Sir E. Montagu, on his return, to the Government for consideration and approval, before being submitted to Parliament. Conferences in various parts of India would always be held in the presence of the Viceroy. There need not be any apprehension that the dignity or prestige which surrounded and ought to surround the Viceroy would suffer from the presence of Sir E. Montagu. The task before those in India was difficult and intricate in the extreme. Success largely depended on the efforts of the British and Indian peoples working in harmony.

Lord Minto commented on the unfortunate sequence of events in connection with Mrs. Besant's release, and strongly criticised Sir E. Montagu's Mosopotamian debate speech.

Lord Cresswell pointed out that the Raj and Viceroy had contemplated the whole business, and those attacking Sir E. Montagu were really attacking them.

Lord Canningham deprecated anything giving the impression that the Defence of India Acts were being used for punitive and not preventive purposes. Lord Cresswell protested against the attacks on Sir E. Montagu on account of a speech made as a private member at a time when he had no idea that he would presently be charged with the government of India. He asked "Should the Raj's invitation have been declined when the Secretary of State, the Viceroy and the whole of his colleagues recommended a particular course?" Either House of Parliament ought to be slow in assuming that they were wrong.

SEPARATE PEACE IMPOSSIBLE.

LONDON, October 26th.

In the House of Commons, Lord Robert Cecil categorically denied the rumours that the Western Powers were contemplating a separate peace at the expense of Russia and Roumania. He said the rumours were spread by enemy agents in Russia with the hope of disorganising Russia. Britain was determined to abide by her Russian Ally and to assist her to consolidate her newfound liberty. He paid a tribute to the valiant resistance of Roumania at a period of exceptional difficulty and trial, and assured the Roumanian people that Britain would not desert them in the present crisis.

UNOPPOSED RETURNS.

LONDON, October 26th.

The following have been returned unopposed for Parliament:—Sir A. Geddes, Basingstoke; and Major Peel, (Liberal), Spalding.

CHINA AND THE WAR.

LONDON, October 26th.

In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. King, Mr. Balfour stated that China was co-belligerent with us and, in that sense, an Ally. China had taken such action to support us as seemed possible to the Chinese Government. He declined to discuss the constitutional position in China.

SCARCITY OF SUBSIDIARY COINAGE IN JAPAN.

TOKYO, October 26th.

It is understood that the Government will issue three millions sterling in small paper money early in November to relieve the serious scarcity of subsidiary coinage.

GOVERNMENT TO ISSUE SMALL PAPER MONEY.

TOKYO, October 26th.

The Daily Mail states that the West of Ireland police this week are arresting Sinn Féin leaders throughout the country.

ARREST OF SINN FEIN LEADERS.

LONDON, October 26th.

A GREAT FEMALE MEDICINE

Throughout the many stages of woman's life, from peevish girlhood through womanhood, motherhood, to the declining years of old age, there is no better, milder, or more effective medical companion to women-folk than **Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills**. They promote a healthy and regular condition, cleansing and restoring the Bowels, Liver and Kidneys, to perfect working order. A few doses occasionally when well, will assure a pure and healthy system. Years ago Pills were the medicine of the poor only. To-day the efficacy of Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills to overcome the common ailments and restore health and happiness to sick and ailing women, has convinced not only the working section of the population, but the wives and daughters of the more wealthy, professional and independent classes that Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills are a Great Female Medicine, and are absolutely indispensable to every lady's boudoir. They are a perfect Blood Purifier and a positive and permanent cure for Biliousness, Indigestion, Constipation, Headaches, Sallow Complexion, Liver and Kidney Troubles, Piles, Blisters, and all Female Ailments.

They are a perfect Blood Purifier and a positive and permanent cure for Biliousness, Indigestion, Constipation, Headaches, Sallow Complexion, Liver and Kidney Troubles, Piles, Blisters, and all Female Ailments.

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LIFE WITHOUT HEALTH IS LIVING DEATH. VETARZO BRAIN AND NERVE FOOD

This remarkable compound, the latest discovery of modern times, is without equal in all cases of defective nerve and brain power, whether induced by worry, overwork, dissipation, or other influences. It restores vitality, improves circulation, nervous system, and all other organs, and is a powerful tonic for the system generally. It gives tone to the exhausted nerves, arrests all weakening wasting discharges, restores the falling energies, and imparts new life and vigour to those who have recently seemed played out, used up and valueless. Bottles Price 2s. 6d.

WITHOUT PURE BLOOD HEALTH IS IMPOSSIBLE. VETARZO BLOOD MEDICINE

Never before was there anything like it, nor can its marvellous properties ever be equalled in any cases of poverty, impurity, or other impairment of the blood from whatever cause arising. It is a powerful tonic for the system generally. It gives tone to the exhausted nerves, arrests all weakening wasting discharges, restores the falling energies, and imparts new life and vigour to those who have recently seemed played out, used up and valueless. Bottles Price 2s. 6d.

ITALY ALL IN! AUSTRIA IS NOT PLAYED OUT.

(By GEORGE A. B. DEWAR.)

Awaking from illusion and paring from fond prepossessions—what a long chapter, not even yet closed, in the story of the war that is for millions of people! True, some of us never cherished the illusion that the war was going to be "all over by Christmas" 1914; or that it would be won on the water; or won on the voluntary system, with "business as usual"; or that Germany could be starved out by a ladylike blockade in 1915; or conquered by talking amiable nonsense in 1917 about her coming revolution. Nor did we all believe in the fairy tale about the Russian steam-roller making a nice, easy way for us into Berlin by 1918 or nineteen something. Those were the grosser deceptions of the war which spurious "optimism"—i.e., not facing unpleasant truths—affected.

But who can boast that, throughout the war, he has gone free of all illusions and prepossessions? I have certainly had my share of them, home and foreign. For instance, I had till lately the illusion that Austria was (1) more or less a spent force in the war, and (2) that we need not regard her, apart from Germany, as a danger to the Allied cause. That dream has passed. I have rather slowly awakened to the truth that Austria is strong and that she is malign. I will return to this point in another article—for it is an absolutely essential one if we are to preserve the *Entente* and to win the war—and will here only say that the policy of writing off Austria or of making-up with her, which still attracts uninformed minds at home, is foolish, and, if carried out, would prove fatal. *Defenda est Austria*—that is a safer and a more manly plan.

Like the rest, I have had my illusions and prepossessions, then; they can no more be escaped than can the measles; but I have never since the war started been under any illusion as to the worth and vitality of the Italian nation, because, travelling in the country in several years before the struggle began, I had noted its energy and resource and its intense, brimming-over life. There may be nations spent or fast asleep in the South, but Italy is not of them. Never deceived by her towers that breathe the "lost enchantment of the Middle Ages," by the *dolce far niente* legend, by the olive and the vine, all of which may give you the impression that this is a land, like the Lotus Eaters, where it is always afternoon. The towers and the lost enchantments are here, certainly, because of the blessing of God the Austrian (who is a German) has not got into the country and flayed it as he has flayed Serbia. The olive and vine are here all right—I never saw them lovelier.

FULL OF ENERGY.

But I do not believe in Italian *Lotus Eaters*. The Italian is much nearer my notion of a hustler than of a decayed grandee. He may knock off work for two or three hours at mid-day in August—but then think of the heat to-day in, say, Rome! I do not ordinarily feel heat very much. I have borne with it in March on Sahara for a little while, yet part of to-day I have been wandering from room to room and from one part of the garden to another in a vain attempt to get out of the sun and the heat into something cool. But there is no cool; and yet, while I searched, the Italians were hastening back to their work.

The Italian is doing it; he is doing it now. He was wide awake and full of energy while I was trying to get to sleep last night. He had been up and doing for a good hour or two when I was sitting down to *complet*, with raspberry jam instead of butter, at nine this morning.

The *dolce far niente* legend will not do in modern Italy. I may have fancied I saw something of *far niente* in Pisa; I insisted on it when I came in a little boat round the curve of Spezia a few years ago.

But this was not the Italy of now—New Italy. I found and recognised her in the crowded streets of Palermo, of Naples, of Genoa; as next week, after returning from the heroic battle-front, I expect to find her in Milan.

Italy is a live nation, full of zest, keenness, vigour, even passion, for the old, for the new. She conserves the treasures of the Renaissance as we, to our shame, have not yet learnt to do. Italy does not knock down her most glorious pictures and statues to the purses of the galleries of Germany; she has not come through England. But Italy is out, too, for the new as well as the old. Browning—it is fair to quote Browning when writing of Italy—tells us that a man must have two sides to his soul, one for the world and one for his wife. A nation must have two sides to-day if it is to come alive out of this ghastly convulsion and afterwards work anything in the world for good and endurance. It must—if it is to achieve any spiritual purpose on earth and to raise the masses and give new hopes and a new heart to man—succeed on the material side. It must succeed in the factory and on the land.

Science and efficiency all round, a reconstruction of the whole fabric of capital and labour, the casting out of the pampered, pernicious drones that suck too much of the honey of the hive, the bringing into power of new men, altogether—these things must be in our own country if we are to come really alive through the war. I am convinced from what I have seen and heard already that the instinct of reconstruction is permeating Italy as it gradually is England.

KINDLY HUMAN NOTE.

Italy is spiritual; is not liberty—a thing infinitely apart from licence, its (Continued at foot of next column.)

UNFRIENDLY LONDON. A REAL INCIDENT.

(By ARTHUR POINSONBY, M.P.)

The other day I wandered into a popular restaurant for tea. It was crowded with a bright and cheerful throng. A small orchestra was in the throes of a ragtime melody. Good humour and animation prevailed. War depression was not a guest.

There seemed to be no vacant chair in the room. But after diligent searching I found one. It was at a table for two. The other chair was occupied by an officer from overseas whose features seemed familiar to me. He appeared moody and dejected. He looked round the room with a very uncheerful visage.

I am unhappily not a communicative person, but I found myself engaging my *vis-à-vis* in conversation. My travels had included journeys through the territories of some of our daughter States. And upon this subject we talked for a while. We paid many a tribute to the loyalty of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa and the valour of the overseas soldiers now in the trenches.

I discovered that my new-found companion had been in some of the war's heaviest fighting on the Gallipoli Peninsula and in France. I asked him if he had any particular desire to return to France. "Yes, I have," he replied. "I wish I was returning to France to-night."

"But why," I asked; "don't you enjoy being in London?"

The reply was an emphatic "No!" He continued: "London to me is terribly lonely. I haven't a friend here. I don't know what to do with my time. There is nothing for me to do except go to the theatre. I would have liked to meet some English people. But no. And there are thousands of boys in the same situation. Nowhere to go where one can meet friendly people; people one can rely on giving you a welcome. Heavens, there are plenty of others. Now, in France I have my pals to talk to."

I fear that I looked at this healthy young man with amazement. It was a blow to my pride as an Englishman to hear such a reflection upon London's hospitality. I ventured to apologise.

"You needn't," he went on. "London is a mighty big place, too preoccupied in its own affairs. Besides, I expect London can't take everyone on trust. Still, it's a blow. One comes 'home'—to coldness and indifference. Or thoughtlessness."

I handed him my card, with a cordial invitation to spend a few days with me in my part of the world. He handed his. I looked at the name.

"Not 'V.C.'?" I asked. For the name was a household word. I had seen this young man's portrait displayed in the newspapers a few days before.

He nodded an amused assent.

"And you here, with not a friend to speak to. It's a scandal," I burst in with warmth.

"Yes, I am having my 'V.C. leave.' Odd, isn't it? Well, I think I'll go and see one of your shows. Sorry you can't come. A pleasant journey north."

But I hadn't a pleasant journey north. I was crestfallen, furious. I had read of this man's extraordinary bravery in the newspapers. I had seen his portrait in many newspapers. Articles had been written in plenty; of his honourable wounds, of his valour, which had won him more distinctions than the Victoria Cross. And I had met him casually in a London restaurant friendly, impatiently waiting the day when his "V.C. leave" would be ended; and he could go back to the terrible sights and sounds of the battlefield to human companionship!

Is this how Imperial London honours its gallant over-seas soldiers? Is there nothing for them but the society of street harpies and the tavern?—A.C.

parody—spiritual? And does not Italy remember more about liberty than many nations have ever learnt? She is poetic, intellectual. I have ventured to describe the illuminated misal of modern Europe, and I do not think those who know Sicily and the Umbrian towns, Pisa, and Venetia would quarrel with the metaphor as being far-fetched. But it is not enough for any nation to be even complete on this side, complete in the refinements and the humanities—the side in Matthew Arnold's saying, of the angels. We must have matter as well as soul. Nations that are to get their stamp on the world and be in the forefront of civilization. The natural competition among nations to-day is too pressing to suffer it to be otherwise. I hope to show presently that Italy means to be of the van in this march of the material.

And yet that my first glimpse of this great warring country when once again I came through the Alps the other evening, appealed to soul rather than to substance. The Mediterranean night was coming on. There were soldiers and sailors of several nations in our train. They stood about the corridors, and a cry of welcome and good wishes went up from hundreds of little balconies and windows where the women and children crowded and waited the great event of the day, the winding southwards of the Paris-Lyon-Mediterranean train. There was no mistaking the fervour and spontaneity of that greeting; nothing of the Stockholm swindle of its cunning nationality, about the people who live between Genoa and Spezia!

Imagine this kindly human note, fresh as if the Italian war had started a few days ago instead of May, 1915, in a scene of haunting yet homely loveliness, and you have Italy to-day. I have not seen the olives, the locust trees, and the dark cypresses growing though it is mid-August. I never saw the sky more delicately tinted rose and lemon, nor the line of the rocky promontories more sharply etched against those wondrous lights. The night came on too swiftly, and at Levante we had a final flash of the Mediterranean, black and silver. Not many English people know that village: those who do call it, I think, home.—Daily Mail.

MEIOSIS.

(By ARTHUR POINSONBY, M.P.)

It happened recently that a farm labourer, overcome by some desperate sort of melancholia, went down to a pond in the early morning and deliberately drowned himself. An old friend of his in the village was asked shortly afterwards what he thought of the event. He did not call it an appalling tragedy; he did not wring his hands and describe it as a harrowing calamity. After a pause he gave vent to his grief and horror in these words: "It's a pretty middlin' affair." This was the strongest expression he could use. It was as good an instance as could be found of what grammarians call Meiosis. The definition of Meiosis is "understatement so as to intensify."

This form of expression has become curiously common in recent years, and is, I am inclined to think, essentially British. It originates for the most part with people who have a limited vocabulary, and are aware of the weakness of the constant use of superlatives. Exaggeration fails to give the effect they want. The word "bloody," from very frequent use, while it still retains a certain decorative value, has ceased to give special emphasis, so they have plunged into the opposite direction, and produce the effect of intensity of feeling and enthusiasm by the use of Meiosis.

For instance, "not a bit" perhaps the most common of this kind of expression, if far more superlative than "very" and "middlin'" which can be still further intensified by saying "pretty middlin'." It outreaches the strongest superlative that can be found. The elliptical phrase "I don't think," which originated in the music-halls, has a unique property. It is a very strong negative, and yet it can also be a very strong affirmative. It can convey emphatic dissent or equally emphatic assent. A good deal depends on the tone in which it is used. Grammarians would find some difficulty in analysing this peculiar idiom. But it is certainly very effective. There are many other phrases which illustrate this form of speech. If you ask a gardener if he has any apples, and he says, "A tidy few," you will know that his trees are very heavily laden. If you inquire of him whether there was any rain in the night, and he says, "A nice drizzle," you will probably find that floods are about.

In connection with rain, I heard a policeman in London not long ago, while a torrential downpour was sweeping through the streets with the force of a water-pistol, remark to his colleague, "Pretty damp." The reply was, "M'yes"—as much as to say there was no need for such strong language. *Punch* some time back gave a similar instance. The drawing depicted two youths looking from the summit of a Swiss mountain over a magnificent view. "Not bad," says one. "Well," his companion replied, "you needn't rave about it like a bally poet."

If you ask your cook if she would like to take a fortnight's holiday while her young man has got leave from the front, she will not say, "That will be absolutely delightful; there is nothing in the world I should like better." But the reply you will get will be, "I don't mind if I do," and somehow it has more feeling in it than the other. "Yes, I am having my 'V.C. leave.' Odd, isn't it? Well, I think I'll go and see one of your shows. Sorry you can't come. A pleasant journey north."

This phraseology is adopted very often by schoolboys. Their highest praise for a person is conveyed by the word "decent," though I have heard the superlative "beastly decent." And, indeed, we all appreciate the value of Meiosis. We prefer "He's not at all a bad chap" to "He is quite the most delightful man I know." I don't think that would be very wise, carried more weight than that is the most idiotic thing you could do. And when you hear a man ordering his luncheon in a restaurant and saying, "I think I'll have a little beef," you know he means: "I must have beef, and get me as much as the plate will hold." "I am afraid you are incorrect" can be in certain circumstances a more severe rebuke than "You are an infernal liar."

Numberless instances might be given of how our soldiers in the face of great dangers have jestingly referred to the situation with some ridiculously mild remark. A soldier who lit his pipe after his two pals on either side of him had been shot dead was heard to murmur, "These bloody French matches and this blasted Belgian tobacco will be the death of me." Captain Bainsfather's "Old Bill," who is admitted to be a very characteristic figure, is the incarnation of Meiosis. This deliberate understatement is the language of imperturbability, a quality of which we are rather proud. An old lady showed it in one of the recent air raids when, on being urged to hurry to the shelter, she replied, "Wait till I get my spectacles, and then stoutly refused to move from the window. Or again, a man who was shopping while the aeroplanes were overhead asked coolly, "How many are there, and will you give me 2lb. of butter?"

It is not bravado; it certainly is not insensibility; nor is it just a trick of speech which has become fashionable. It seems to me that there is something deeper in this language, which is now so general, than might be supposed. From the few amusing instances one comes across from time to time, something indicative of a particular attitude of mind and of national temperament.

As a nation we are undemonstrative. We have all been taught at school that enthusiasm is rather bad form. We prefer to conceal our emotions; we are rather ashamed of them, and we are still more ashamed of anyone who exhibits them without restraint. Retention seems to denote power, and instinctively we admire it. We have even become a little suspicious of the orator. The value of action is enhanced if it is unaccompanied by words. Many a great man of action has been practically inarticulate. Sentiments of adoration or of anguish are not for the public ear. Gush and gas do not appeal to us. So we assume the cloak and mask of indifference, callousness, and apathy; underneath the feelings are deep, but they must be concealed. Moreover, we are a silent people because we are temperamentally phlegmatic, and also because we realise the inadequacy of words in certain situations.

One can travel in a crowded railway carriage or go in a packed Tube lift with

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

SHAKESPEARE UNDER SHELL FIRE

(By MARTIN HARVEY.)

A muffled figure recognised me in the packet-boat as a fellow-worker in the uniform of the "Y.M.C.A." and was curious as to my job.

"I am going to lecture to the men at the front."

"About what?"

"Can't you imagine that they are rather fed up with it all? Dog-sick and war-weary? Perhaps by reciting to them what the poets of old, and the soldier poets of to-day, have written I may bring back to them the tremendous worth-while-ness of still 'carrying on.'"

He said, "Isn't it rather like the person lecturing his congregation on the need of coming to church? But I wish you luck."

On my first night I was recognised and rushed for a recitation. I found the finest things "went" best, and doubts arose in my mind about the effect of that "lecture."

Next day I was motored by a pretty girl up country. Down the hill on which a camp was pitched streamed into a hut a great crowd of men with the broad-brimmed hats of the Australian Commonwealth.

These men don't know me, I think, and I shall get an impartial judgment of my "lecture." But as the head of the "Y.M.C.A." introduces me I am ensured a respectful hearing. In fact there is nothing but respect, and at the end of it I think of my "lecture" less than ever. There is no unity of mind between my audience and me, and I believe it is my fault. My remarks about war-weariness, about the worth-while-ness of their sacrifice, fall flat. I am only on safe ground with Shakespeare's stirring speeches in "Henry V." What is the matter? I will give the d-d lecture (for I begin to feel like that) one more chance. I do before another Australian contingent, poor beggars! The audience is immense, and so is their silence. I am half inclined to say, "Boys, let us stop this and get out into the sunshine."

"Pearls before swine, sir," says a sympathetic Tommy.

"Not at all, I say; 'I see the truth now. There is no war-weariness. There is no dog-sickness. They are not fed up' and they don't need to be told by a living man of the tremendous worth-while-ness of it all."

After which I pitch my lecture into some bushes and a load is off my mind.

Luckily, by my wife's advice, I had brought another string with my bow. I had tried that lecture on her before. I started, with results that raised my first doubt in it. She said, "Be prepared with something else; take something of Dickens, and mark my words, they will want 'The Only Way.'"

Thereafter all went well. I gave them Henry's speech to his soldiers at the siege of Harfleur (near that very spot), and a few days later the "Crispin" speech from the same play within a mile or so of Crécy. "Hamlet," their beloved "Only Way"—for which they always called—and one of the Christmas stories of Charles Dickens.

One occasion stands out particularly in my remembrance. Far up into the dangerous, I mounted the rickety improvised platform, and the bronzed and cheerful mass of the greatest infantry in the world settled down as if the "unhealthy spot" were 500 miles away.

"Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once—! A third! A sharp, musical scream in the aid! A crash! I pause. The men watch me with a mysterious grin: "Is that a German shell?" I ask. There is a shout of laughter and "Yes—from a hundred throats. There doesn't seem much else for me to say but 'Oh, well, I'd better begin again.'"

"Once more unto the ——" Thud! scream! crash! (much nearer). I pause again and say, "It's all very well for you fellows, but you know, these are the first German shells I've heard."

Another delighted shout from my audience, who are evidently intensely interested in watching me undergoing my baptism of fire. For some little time I cannot resist pausing in my recitation while I wait for the crash. The fascination of that moment is irresistible, and at each pause the audience rocks with laughter. At last I get so used to the experience that I can listen for the thud and scream, and after a little practice and careful timing I can raise my voice with a shout on the very word when I judge the crash will come. Long practice at the theatre in dodging a cough in the audience led me to this exciting game, and to the immense delight of my hearers we at last even overcome this ill-timed intrusion of German shells.—Daily Mail.

out hearing a syllable uttered. I doubt if this would be possible in any other country. Who has ever travelled in a crowded railway carriage abroad in continued silence? It is not unkindness on our part, or insouciance, nor are we stupidly stolid; it is partly shyness, partly diffidence, partly reluctance to embark on experiments of intercourse with strangers, partly defective powers of expression, and perhaps too partly lassitude. The war has quite exhausted our vocabulary, which at the best of times is rather limited. For our amazement, horror, or indignation we can find no appropriate language. The mass of the people consequently, who are the real creators of phrases and words, will have recourse more and more to deliberate understatement.

To give a final instance of Meiosis, when we had bows and arrows, spears, flintlocks, and muzzle-loaded cannon we talked of bombardment, storming, battery, assault, and cannonade. Now that we spend millions of pounds on shells and high explosives that shatter and blast in a way to make the very planet shake, we talk of "a push."—Westminster Gazette.

OUR LONDON LETTER. SHIPPING INDUSTRY AND AFTER THE WAR PROBLEMS. THE FOOD CONTROLLER HARD AT WORK.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, September 3rd.
THE PREMIER IN ACADEMY.

For several weeks there has been considerable secrecy respecting the whereabouts of the Prime Minister and the exact spot which was selected as the meeting place of Allied representatives, to which guarded references have appeared from time to time in the Press. History is being made at these conferences, but nothing more definite has been said about them than three words in one of the official announcements—that they were taking place "on the coast." The secret may now be revealed. The place on the coast is the old-world hamlet of Great Walsingham in Sussex, where at a farmstead Mr. Lloyd George has had his headquarters for five or six weeks. He went there to get rid of the ceaseless wear and tear of official routine at 10, Downing Street; and there he received foreign statesmen and ambassadors and other distinguished visitors whose presence "on the coast" was to discuss plans for the completion of the war. By all accounts the immediate calm of the Sussex countryside has proved an excellent tonic for the Premier, who, by the way, has developed Mr. Gladstone's hobby of tree-felling as a recreation from the political hurly-burly.

AN AMUSING BLUNDER.

Viscount Grey, or Sir Edward Grey as he was when the war began, has had the experience of reading his own obituary notice in the German Press. News of the death of Earl Grey reached Berlin a few days ago, and the German newspapers confused the identity of the great Imperialist statesman with that of their "arch-enemy, Sir Edward Grey," and published long biographies about "Britain's former Foreign Secretary." A most singular feature of the comments of German writers is that they are for the most part eulogistic. This is the more remarkable seeing that Viscount Grey was represented to the German people ever since the war broke out as the incarnation of evil. The hate that was worked up against England generally found unrestrained expression where this British Minister was concerned. As an example of the change which has taken place in Teutonic opinion between 1914 and 1917, the following remark of the fire-eating Count Reventlow in the *Völkische Zeitung* may be quoted:—"Viscount Grey was no genius, but he was a statesman who knew what he wanted, who carefully and vigorously pursued his course, however entangled and dark it might be, and who never lost his direction or lost sight of his final aim. The fact that he was personally saturated with all the presumption and hypocrisy of the British race may be mentioned by way of parenthesis." When it is recalled what the Germans used to say about Viscount Grey, it will be admitted that this is indeed a tribute as astonishing as it is unexpected.

FOOD CONTROL.

The Ministry of Food is moving vigorously under the direction of Lord Rhonda. Within three months the Food Controller has introduced new departures which may be regarded as a record of administrative evolution. His programme, which is already being carried out, may be classified under five heads, namely:—

1. The institution of a costings system to limit excess profits.
2. The organisation of local authorities as the agents of the Food Department.
3. The reduction of the price of provisions and meat.
4. The cheapening of the quarter loaf.
5. Reform of sugar distribution by the introduction of sugar cards.

Lord Rhonda's policy is to decentralise administration as far as possible on the assumption that the more responsibility is distributed the more efficient will be control, because a larger number of people will be interested. He has enlisted the active support and co-operation of Town Councils and other bodies throughout the country, and every town has, or will have, its own Food Control Committee charged with the duty of watching the movement of prices and protecting the pockets of the consumer. In some places the grocers, bakers, butchers and other food sellers have made desperate efforts to capture the Committees and have actually succeeded in getting their nominees elected, but their little game is well understood and is doomed to failure.

As a matter of interest it may be useful to put upon record the list to date of foodstuffs with controlled prices. This is as under:—All corn (wheat, barley, oats, etc.), meat, sugar, bacon and ham, lard, butter and cheese, cheap tea and coffee, milk, chocolate and all other sweets, jam and jellies, plums for jam, dried beans, dried peas, maize. It is a fairly comprehensive list, covering what may be called necessities. It is now being proposed to tackle the "profiteers" dealing with drink. The working men deeply resent having to pay for champagne to a shilling a pint for weak beer which commonly sold by the name of "arms and legs" because it has no "body."

SIX MONTHS OF PIRACY.
Although the submarine pirates after six months of unrestricted ruthlessness have failed to accomplish what was advertised as the aim in view—to bring the hated English to their knees—the sinkings are still taking place at a rate which makes national economy in the matter of essential foodstuffs an imperative duty. The number of big ships sunk from week to week now is very considerably below the figures of last April, and it is to be noted that there are comparatively few unsuccessful attacks. For instance, in the latest returns only four ships escaped out of 30 which the pirates entitled to put down. This probably means (Continued at foot of next column.)

TO WATCH RUSSIANS LEAVING AMERICA. DRASTIC MEASURES TO PREVENT EXODUS OF GERMAN AGENTS.

The Russian Government has adopted drastic regulations to prevent pro-German agents from the United States entering Russia under the guise of friendly nationals. The regulations have been prepared as a result of the discovery that many Russians resident in and frequently citizens of the United States have gone home within the past four months for the ostensible purpose of explaining democracy and its benefits as they saw them in this country, but for the actual purpose of serving the German military machine as pacifists.

Some of them were invited to return by the Russian Government, which was led to believe their influence would be of value in helping to build a stable Government on democratic principles. These men were promptly taken in hand by German agents, who paid them to curse the United States and pronounce President Wilson's Administration more autocratic than that of the last Tsar.

As far as can be ascertained the State Department issued only two passports to naturalised Russians during this exodus. The United States did not have the authority to hold them up under treaty regulations with the empire or the stipulations of international law. They required no passports to leave.

Under the new regulations it will be necessary for every Russian returning home to prove in American ports of embarkation that he is friendly to the Kerensky Government and is sailing for good purposes. If any believed to be undesirable insist upon sailing they will be held at the port of embarkation until they satisfy the authorities they have a right to travel without interference.

that the Germans are getting more careful of their torpedoes, or it may be that their opportunities are no so favourable.

Meanwhile news comes to hand as I write that the first of the standard ships has been successfully tested. This vessel, which has been completed in five months, is the forerunner of a mighty fleet; and, according to Sir Joseph Maclay, the Shipping Controller, these which are to follow will only take from four and a half months to build. Such is one of the practical results of standardisation. If we can turn out ocean carriers at a faster rate than the Germans are able to sink ships it is obvious that the U-boat campaign is beaten. No doubt exists that we shall be able to do this. Of course, it will still be necessary to destroy the submarines by every means that can be devised, and there will be no relaxation of effort in that direction. But the arrival of standard ships is an assurance that, despite "friction," at its worst, we cannot be starved. Moreover, the new fleet will help to transport United States armies and stores to Europe, and also marks the beginning of the gigantic task that lies ahead of us to make good the world shortage of shipping both now and after the war.

NAUTICAL SHIPPING.

As so much is spoken and written about trade after the war, it is of some moment to note what the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom and the Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association have to say on the subject. This representative body have adopted a report by a Committee on the measures necessary for the maintenance of the British mercantile marine in peace as well as in war. At the outset it is emphasised that the future success of the shipping industry depends upon the safety and prosperity of the nation as a whole. That is a consideration which must be kept steadily in the foreground whatever the disadvantages it imposes on British shipping.

One fact is established, which must prove somewhat disconcerting to pessimists who are never tired of telling us that we cannot hold our own in the world's markets. This is that there is no evidence in the ten years from 1904 to 1913 indicating to British shipowners as the carriers of the greater part of the foreign trade of the United Kingdom any general loss of markets. On the contrary, except for the set-back in 1905, which was world-wide, the general volume of the exports and imports of this country increased from year to year. The increase under both heads with the Empire kept pace with the growth of our trade in other markets, but the Empire trade did not represent more than a third of our total trade. The increase of our shipping and the hold it maintained on the ocean-carrying trade of the world must be regarded as satisfactory. Among all the trading nations we alone in the ten years increased our exports more rapidly than our imports.

While it is well known that the German Government heavily subsidised German shipping, that, according to the report referred to, is not a policy to be recommended. "We are satisfied," says the Committee, "that, so far as shipping is concerned, it can only hold its own in competition with the world free from State control and free from State assistance." The Government factor should be confined to discovering new markets for national exports of manufactures and coal. Furthermore, the opinion is expressed that "any attempt to exclude foreign shipping from the trade of the world by placing restrictions on our coaling stations would be against the best interests of our foreign commerce and our mercantile marine." The report is a voluminous document, containing statistics and illustrated by charts. It need scarcely be said that it is quite impossible to suggest that the policy of the Government will be with regard to British shipping after the war; but the foregoing brief indication of views which are endorsed by a body entitled to speak for the British shipping industry is interesting and instructive.

GREECE AND THE DARDANELLES. CONSTANTINE'S DOUBLE DEALING. BALKAN POLICY OF M. VENIZELOS.

M. Venizelos in his speech in the Greek Chamber on August 26th, in dealing with events in 1914 stated that he feared a Turco-Bulgarian attack on Greece, and as Turkey had at her disposal the Goeben and Breslau the naval balance had been overthrown. In these circumstances he obtained authorization to declare that the place of Greece was on the side of the Entente, and that as Greece could not go to the help of Serbia owing to the Bulgarian danger, she nevertheless placed her naval forces at the disposal of the Entente.

Our declaration to place ourselves at the disposal of the Entente was made, continued M. Venizelos, before or rather during the Battle of the Marne. I insisted that this declaration should be made before that battle was decided because, if the battle went badly for the Germans, I did not wish it to be thought that we were going to rescue the conquerors. I wished to demonstrate the feeling of the country and its rulers and the solidarity of its interests with those of the great Western Powers in the East and the Aegean. The first result of my contract with the Powers towards which traditions and interest directed us was from Great Britain, which declared to me that the British Fleet would not allow the Turkish Fleet to leave the Dardanelles, even if Turkey decided to attack Greece. (Prolonged cheers.) This policy enabled me to obtain the consent of the Protecting Powers and Italy for the reoccupation of Northern Epirus on the condition that it should be carried out on the same conditions as the reoccupation of Atyena by the Italians.

Without receiving any formal declaration or any indication, I felt and was convinced that my policy would enable me to add to Greece at the conclusion of the war the island of Cyprus as compensation for Bulgarian aggression. My anticipations were correct, because a short time afterwards Great Britain offered Cyprus to Greece, but that offer was rejected by those in power at the time.

DECEIVING GREAT BRITAIN.

M. Venizelos went on to state that King Constantine changed his mind after a conference with M. Streit, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, and General Dousmanis. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister proceeded, said the King of England, to King Constantine for the readiness of Greece to place herself on the side of the Entente, and the British Admiralty ordered Admiral Kerr to make arrangements with our naval staff in order to prepare an eventual plan of attack against Gallipoli. Admiral Kerr received the following reply from the King:—"Why all this? I see no reason to make war against Turkey." The King, M. Venizelos added, spoke to me about this. I did not then know the existence of the telegram which the King sent to the Kaiser through M. Streit, declaring that in no case would the King make war on Germany's allies unless they attacked Greece. I took note of the Emperor's telegram later on, and of the reply which had to be given to it. I agreed with the King that the reply should be that we would remain neutral for the time being, because it was impossible to pledge oneself for the future. You may be sure that I never saw this telegram, for you all know what it would have been if it had passed through my hands.

THE DARDANELLES EXPEDITION.

M. Venizelos referred to the British Note concerning territorial concessions to Greece in Asia Minor and said that when he learned that an attack on the Dardanelles was in preparation he judged that the moment had come for asserting the Greek claim to those concessions without incurring the dangers which would result from Greek troops being sent towards the Danube for the relief of Serbia. He proposed to the Crown to place at the disposal of the Allies an expeditionary force. The Headquarters Staff, however, went against his policy, not on military but on political grounds. King Constantine, although against the Dardanelles enterprise, was somewhat shaken when he read a memorandum containing the military arguments in its favour, and said to him (M. Venizelos) with great emotion: "So be it then, for the love of God." But Major-General Metaxas, Chief of the Headquarters Staff, thereupon resigned. Crown Councils were called to consider the matter, and, though M. Rallis among others supported intervention, the expedition was not sent.

Dealing with the claim of M. Gounaris and his colleagues to have saved Greece from the destruction which then threatened her, M. Venizelos cited the passage in the report of the British Royal Commission, in which it is stated that within a fortnight of its mobilization the Greek division would have found itself on Gallipoli Peninsula, which was then undefended, for the defence work at Gallipoli were not commenced until a month later. Within another fortnight the Greek troops would have entered Constantinople, which the Turks had already decided to evacuate. "That," exclaimed M. Venizelos, "is what would have happened if we had intervened in February, 1915."

"The Allies," he continued, "undertook the Dardanelles expedition later without asking for our co-operation, having no longer any confidence in us. If, instead of this, the policy of the Liberty Party had been frankly applied, the Dardanelles expedition would have been secretly executed. One fine morning the Greek Army would have landed at Gallipoli, which was defended by only 5,000 Turkish soldiers scattered in different fortresses."

RETRAYAL OF SERBIA.

Having narrated the circumstances of the election of May 31st, 1915, and his (Continued at foot of next column.)

THE ROYAL NAVY—OFFICIAL [BY RICHARD THIRRELL.]

The quarterly "Navy List" might aptly be described as an official publication through the medium of which the Government endeavours to impress upon the public the shortage and costliness of paper.

The issue for July, 1914, weighs 30 ounces and was sold for 3s. The issue for July, 1917, which has just made its appearance, weighs 49 ounces and is retailed at 18. 6d. The publication is issued primarily for the benefit of Germany. The reason for this is that international law requires the King's commission to be issued to all officers bearing the King's commission, and also of hospital ships and vessels appropriated for peaceful employment for regular or auxiliary naval service. These last now number 2,642, and they range from the *Victorian* and the *Kildonan Castle* down to *Yung Sid*, *Janet Reekie*, and *Our Girl Three*. They include, too, four of the "Belle" steamers.

There is, of course, no list of the *pukka* warships of the Fleet. The enhanced bulk of the present-day "List" is due, of course, to the enormous expansion of the naval services, three years ago occupied 90 pages, but now requires 175, while the space taken by the R.N.R. has grown from 2 pages to 156, and by the R.N.V.R. (which includes the bulk of the R.N. Division) from 2 to 90. In the list of the Royal Naval Reserve you will find 55 *Schuchans* of whom all but one are *skip-jacks*, and there are 32 *Mairs*—*skippers* all.

The Navy's Roll of Honour, printed in every "List," now extends to 383 pages, averaging about 50 names apiece. May 1916—the month of Jutland—occupies no fewer than 82 pages for the men alone; and why is it that neither Loftus Joyce nor John Cornwall is shown with that splendid epithet "V.C." which properly stands to the name of Major Harvey, of the Marines, killed in the same action!

ONE SOLDIER IN 30 KILLED.

Fourteen men out of every fifteen in the armies fighting in Europe have so far escaped death and wounds, according to the statistics compiled by Mr. Roger Babson, the Boston statistician.

Under present conditions, when manpower is being conserved by every possible means, he calculates that not more than one in thirty is killed.

Only one in 500 loses a limb.

return to office in the August following, M. Venizelos said:—"If the King was obliged to entrust me with power it was not with the intention of co-operating sincerely with me, but in order to plot against me." M. Venizelos, with the King's approval, was, however, allowed to give new and definite assurances to Serbia and the Entente, "while the Central Powers were aware that the policy which Greece would follow would be diametrically opposed to that which the responsible Government, enjoying the confidence of the country and the alleged confidence of the Crown, wished to pursue." Bulgaria had already satisfied herself that even if she attacked Serbia she had nothing to fear on the side of Greece.

Coming to the period of Bulgaria's entry into the war, M. Venizelos described how mobilization in Greece was carried out, revealing the aims of King Constantine. "I do not wish to go to the help of Serbia," he reports the King as saying, "because Germany will be victorious, and I do not wish to be defeated." M. Venizelos, in reply, put before the King the strategic arguments and other considerations which weighed in favour of an immediate attack on the Bulgarians, whose moral was shattered, who were in possession of only 400 rounds of ammunition per gun, and who would need a considerable time to replenish their supplies.

"If we prevented the crushing of Serbia," he had said to the King, "with in 30 days we should get to Sofia; in any case, we should get to a point beyond which the Austro-German advance for technical reasons would be impossible." To all these arguments the King's only reply continued to be, "I do not wish to intervene, we shall be beaten by Germany." King Constantine subsequently gave his consent to a request being made to the Allies for the forces of 150,000 men which Greece was to have furnished to Serbia in accordance with the treaty. The King changed his mind, but the step had already been taken and in due course the Franco-British troops landed at Salonika.

A WARNING TO AUTOCRATS.

M. Venizelos reviewed at length later events, including the establishment of the National Government at Salonika, the abdication of King Constantine, his (M. Venizelos) return to power, and the reconvening of the Chamber of May 31st, a measure necessary in order that the Government might be carried on in concurrence with the representatives of the people.

I wished, the Prime Minister declared, the history of Greece to retain a precedent which will serve as a lesson in the future. In the Palace of Westminster there exists a tablet, placed in a conspicuous position, which says to the people, "Here was tried Charles, King of England, for having usurped the liberties of the English people." Every time the British Sovereign proceeds to the Palace of Westminster to proclaim the opening or closing of Parliament, it is my intention to propose to the forthcoming National Assembly that a marble tablet be set up in this Hall in such a position that the King, coming here, shall see it, and that on it be inscribed "King Constantine, having dissolved for the second time the Chamber of 1915, in order to impose a personal policy, lost the throne, while the dissolved Chamber, again convoked, continued to perform its constitutional duties."—*Reuter*.

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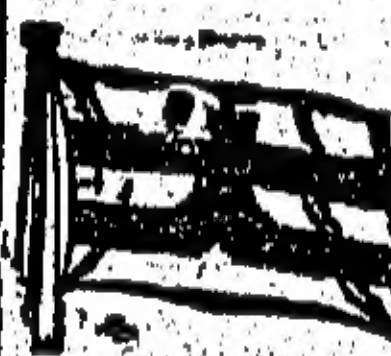
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